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Krasl officials plan for all contingencies

Organizers determined to make festival happen this year

By JULIE SWIDWA
HP Staff Writer

ST. JOSEPH — Early planning is underway for a Krasl Art Fair on the Bluff in July 2021 that could look very different from previous art fairs.

This year's event fell victim to the COVID-19 pandemic, and organizers are hoping to hold the 60th anniversary Krasl Art Fair on the Bluff July 10-11, 2021.

But due to lingering uncertainties surrounding the pandemic, organizers are thinking ahead to what might be done to ensure the health and safety for the artists and visitors.

Krasl Executive Director Julia Gourley told the St. Joseph City Commission on Monday in a meeting conducted via Zoom that the ideas are just that – ideas – and not firm plans. She acknowledged that at this time, COVID-related conditions for the coming summer are unknown.

Ideas being considered include:

■ Extending the footprint of artists booths to include the entire bluff to the bandshell

■ Reducing the number of artists booths by 50 percent, from 200 to 100

■ Eliminating food vendors

■ Having gated entrances to allow limiting the number of patrons in the area at one time

■ Considering one-way foot traffic through the artist's booths to reduce congestion

■ Possibly implementing a suggested donation to intentionally reduce attendance numbers

Gourley said Krasl staff will meet with city staff this coming spring to discuss the pandemic situation and develop a more firm plan, which will be subject to city commission approval.

Mayor Mike Garey thanked Gourley for her presentation.

"Thank you for trying to maintain a signature event for the city," he said.

Commissioner Jeff Richards said, "Sometimes you have to reinvent yourself. Things may be completely different 90 days from now. We have to be flexible. The only thing predictable right now is unpredictability."

Commissioner Lynn Todman advised Krasl organizers to look to the Berrien County Health Department for guidance leading up to the event, and to "collaborate with them."

Contact: jswidwa@TheHP.com, 932-0359, Twitter @HPSwidwa

Don Campbell / HP file photo

Crowds gather along the bluff in downtown St. Joseph during the 2018 Krasl Art Fair on the Bluff. The 2020 festival was canceled due to COVID-19.

Photos by Don Campbell / HP staff

Sylvia Park, center, joins St. Joseph High School students as they present thank you cards to Edward Todd on Monday during a surprise visit to his Stevensville home.

Saying 'thank you' in person

Students surprise donor with gifts, personal visit

By TONY WITTKOWSKI
HP Staff Writer

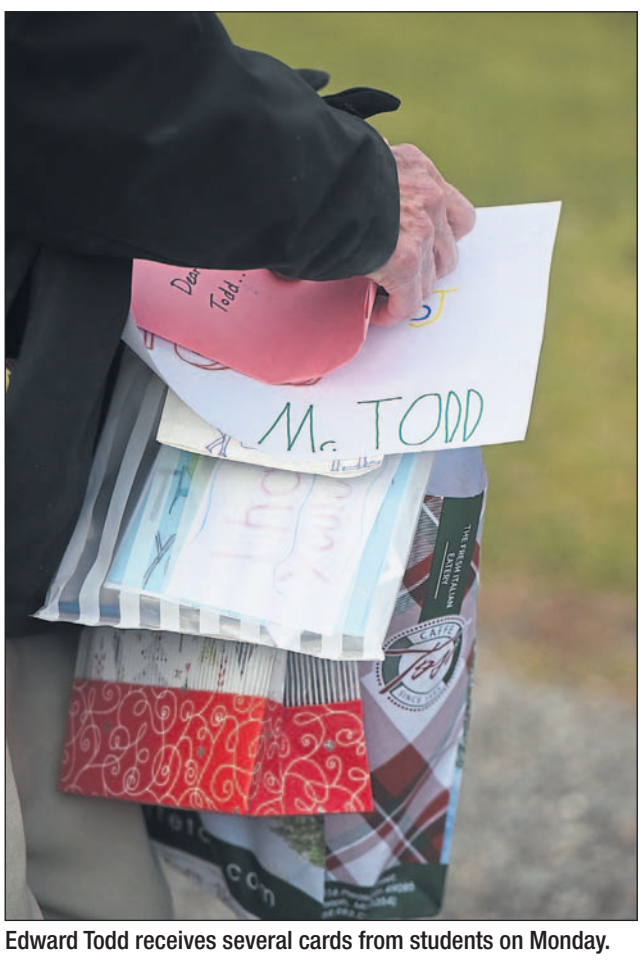
STEVENSVILLE — Inside the door frame of Edward Todd's house are a litany of "thank you" cards from students across the St. Joseph school district.

Earlier this week, Todd was able to add to his collection.

On Monday, six students and a handful of representatives from the St. Joseph Public Schools Foundation surprised the Stevensville resident at his home with a few gifts of appreciation. Among them was a gift bag and an assortment of thank you cards.

"It's an honor," Todd said from his driveway. "I just want to thank everybody. It was quite nice of you."

Sue Riemland, executive director for the SJPS Foundation, said the surprise visit came as a way to thank Todd for his generous donations to the district.



Edward Todd receives several cards from students on Monday.

Through the Paul and Rose Suchovsky Memorial Trust, Todd endows six $5,000 scholarships on an annual basis for students graduating from St. Joseph High School who pursue a business degree. These scholarships are administered by the SJPS Foundation.

In addition, he has committed additional future funding to enhance the technology capability of the school, which includes the Edward J. Todd Innovation Center used for robotics competitions.

"With the pandemic, the foundation was unable to hold a couple events where we like to introduce our donors to students and thank them personally for their generosity," Riemland said.

In the spring and fall, the district had to cancel its Night on the Upper Deck at Silver Beach Pizza, along with the Superintendent Circle Luncheon.

Donors who contribute more than $1,000 tend to get an invite.

To make up for these events, students and foundation administrators began delivering gift bags this past weekend. The foundation has more than 100 deliveries to make.

"We put together some gift bags and asked the student foundation to deliver them," Riemland said. "Since Mr. Todd is a special donor, we

See **SURPRISE**, page A6

U.S. vaccinations ramp up as second COVID-19 shot nears

By MATTHEW PERRONE, LAURAN NEERGAARD and DAVID PORTER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Hundreds more hospitals around the country began dispensing COVID-19 shots to their workers in a rapid expansion of the U.S. vaccination drive Tuesday, while a second vaccine moved to the cusp of government authorization.

A day after the rollout of Pfizer-BioNTech's coronavirus shots, the Food and Drug Administration said its preliminary analysis confirmed the effectiveness and safety of the vaccine developed by Moderna and the National Institutes of Health. A panel of outside experts is expected to recommend the formula on Thursday, with the FDA's green light coming soon thereafter.

The Moderna vaccine uses the same technology as Pfizer-BioNTech's and showed similarly strong protection against COVID-19 but is easier to handle because it does not need to be kept in the deep freeze at minus 94 degrees Fahrenheit (minus 70 Celsius).

Another weapon against the outbreak can't come soon enough: The number of dead in the U.S. passed a staggering 300,000 on Monday, according to Johns Hopkins University, with about 2,400 people now dying per day on average.

The devastating toll is only expected to grow in the coming weeks, fueled by travel over Christmas and New Year's, family gatherings and lax adherence to mask-wearing and other precautions.

Packed in dry ice, shipments of the Pfizer-BioN

See **VACCINES**, page A6

Pandemic backlash jeopardizes public health powers, leaders

By ANNA MARIA BARRY-JESTER, HANNAH RECHT, MICHELLE R. SMITH, and LAUREN WEBER
Associated Press and KHN

Tisha Coleman has lived in close-knit Linn County, Kansas, for 42 years and never felt so alone.

As the public health administrator, she's struggled every day of the coronavirus pandemic to keep her rural county along the Missouri border safe. In return, she's been harassed, sued, vilified – and called a "sheep."

The months of fighting over masks and quarantines were already wearing her down. Then she got COVID-19, likely from her husband, who refused to require masks at the family hardware store. Her mother got it, too, and died Sunday.

Across the U.S., state and local public health officials have found themselves at the center of a political storm.

Some have become the target of far-right activists, conservative groups and anti-vaccination extremists, who have coalesced around common goals – fighting mask orders, quarantines and contact tracing with protests, threats and personal attacks. Public health powers are being undermined in the courts. Lawmakers in at least 24 states also have crafted legislation to weaken long-held public health powers.

Amid this pushback, at least 181 state and local public health leaders in 38 states have resigned, retired or been fired since April 1, according to an ongoing investigation by The Associated Press and KHN. According to experts, this is the largest exodus of public health leaders in American history.

One in 8 Americans – 40 million people – lives in a

See **HEALTH**, page A6

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Tomorrow's Weather

High 36 Low 28

6 50645 49085 0

Jerome Delay / AP

Volunteers wait to be checked at a vaccine trial facility for AstraZeneca at Soweto's Chris Sani Baragwanath Hospital outside Johannesburg, South Africa on Nov. 30.

Poor countries face long wait for vaccines despite promises

By MARIA CHENG and ANIRUDDHA GHOSAL
Associated Press

NEW DELHI — With Americans, Britons and Canadians rolling up their sleeves to receive coronavirus vaccines, the route out of the pandemic now seems clear to many in the West, even if the rollout will take many months. But for poorer countries, the road will be far longer and rougher.

The ambitious initiative known as COVAX created to ensure the entire world has access to COVID-19 vaccines has secured only a fraction of the 2 billion doses it hopes to buy over the next year, has yet to confirm any actual deals to ship out vaccines and is short on cash.

The virus that has killed more than 1.6 million people has exposed vast inequities between countries, as fragile health systems and smaller economies were often hit harder. COVAX was set up by the World Health Organization, vaccines alliance GAVI and CEPI, a global coalition to fight epidemics, to avoid the international stampede for vaccines that has accompanied past outbreaks and would reinforce those imbalances.

But now some experts say the chances that coronavirus shots will be shared fairly between rich nations and the rest are fading fast. With vaccine supplies currently limited, developed countries, some of which helped fund the research with taxpayer money, are under tremendous pressure to protect their own populations and are buying up shots. Meanwhile, some poorer countries that signed up to the initiative are looking for alternatives because of fears it won't deliver.

LOTTERIES

Tuesday drawings

Michigan
Poker Lotto
JD-5C-9D-6H-7H
Midday Daily 3
3-5-5
Midday Daily 4
0-2-6-7
Daily 3
7-5-5
Daily 4
1-1-7-7
Fantasy 5
05-14-23-31-37
Keno
02-04-09-16-17-20-23-25-26-35-39-40-43-44-48-51-53-56-57-68-70-77
Mega Millions jackpot
$291 million
Powerball jackpot
$287 million

Monday drawings

Indiana
Cash 5
09-11-21-28-32
Cash4Life
06-15-21-33-42, Cash Ball: 3
Quick Draw Midday
01-04-05-23-24-25-32-33-36-38-41-42-47-54-59-61-63-73-78-80, BE: 38
Daily Three-Midday
0-7-9, SB: 5
Daily Three-Evening
8-9-2, SB: 5
Daily Four-Midday
0-8-6-9, SB: 5
Daily Four-Evening
4-2-4-9, SB: 5
Quick Draw Evening
04-05-06-10-11-17-19-24-27-29-32-33-35-40-42-45-55-60-67-78, BE: 10

Illinois
Lotto
04-17-27-31-40-43, Extra Shot: 10
LuckyDay Lotto Midday
10-16-20-29-31
Pick Three-Midday
5-3-3, Fireball: 1
Pick Three-Evening
0-1-2, Fireball: 9
Pick Four-Midday
9-6-3-8, Fireball: 9
Pick Four-Evening
6-4-8-7, Fireball: 6
Lucky Day Lotto
05-06-27-29-42

– The Associated Press

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Turning the page? Republicans acknowledge Biden's victory

By WILL WEISSERT
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — More than a month after the election, top Republicans finally acknowledged Joe Biden as the next U.S. president on Tuesday, a collapse in GOP resistance to the millions of voters who decisively chose the Democrat. Foreign leaders joined the parade, too, including Russia's Vladimir Putin.

Speaking from the floor of the U.S. Senate where Biden spent 36 years of his career, Majority Leader Mitch McConnell congratulated his former colleague as president-elect. The two men spoke later in the day.

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, meanwhile, was to meet with his likely successor in the new administration, Antony Blinken. And GOP Sen. Lindsey Graham of South Carolina, one of President Donald Trump's closest allies, said he'd spoken with some of Biden's Cabinet picks.

A similar shift unfolded in capitals across the world, where leaders including Russia's Putin and Mexico's Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador acknowledged Biden's win.

The moves come a day after electors nationwide formally cast votes affirming Biden's victory in last month's presidential election. And while that clears a more stable path for Biden to assume the presidency, it does little to stop Trump from continuing to try to undermine confidence in the results with baseless allegations that have been rejected by judges across political spectrum.

As Republicans began discussing a Biden presidency more openly on Tuesday, Trump still pledged to press forward with almost nonexistent legal options.

"Tremendous evidence pouring in on voter fraud. There has never been anything like this in our Country!" Trump tweeted just as members of his party were publicly recognizing Biden's victory.

The growing acknowledgement of reality in Washington was triggered by the Electoral College formally voting on Monday to seal Biden's win with 306 votes to Trump's 232, the same margin that Trump pulled together four years ago. The normally humdrum political ceremony didn't change the facts of the election, but was nonetheless used as political cover by leading Republicans.

Biden to take oath outside Capitol amid virus restrictions

By ASHRAF KHALIL
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President-elect Joe Biden and Vice President-elect Kamala Harris aim to take their oaths of office outside the U.S. Capitol building as inauguration planners seek to craft an event that captures the traditional grandeur of the historic ceremony while complying with COVID-19 protocols.

Biden's team released some broad details for the Jan. 20 event on Tuesday. One big unknown: Will President Donald Trump participate?

The president, who continues to make unproven claims of widespread voter fraud, has not yet told current and former White House aides whether he will attend Biden's inauguration. While many had assumed he would skip the event after his loss, some now do expect him to make an appearance for the sake of tradition, even if he tries to overshadow the event by, perhaps, announcing the launch of his 2024 campaign just before.

Despite this week's rollout of the new vaccine, its availability to the general public is still months away. So Biden's team is urging supporters not to come to Washington, D.C., to celebrate the inauguration.

"The ceremony's footprint will be extremely limited, and the parade that follows will be reimagined," Biden's inaugural committee said in a statement.

Biden said Friday that a "gigantic inaugural parade down Pennsylvania Avenue" was unlikely, although a big reviewing stand is being constructed in front of the White House.

After the swearing-in ceremony, Biden will deliver an inaugural address that "lays out his vision to beat the virus, build back better, and bring the country together," the inaugural committee said.

The committee announced that Dr. David Kessler, a former Food and Drug Administration commissioner, had been named as chief medical adviser for the inauguration.

Negotiators report progress on long-delayed COVID aid bill

By ANDREW TAYLOR
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Top negotiators reported at least some progress on a long-delayed COVID-19 aid package Tuesday after a rare meeting of Capitol Hill's four most senior lawmakers. The quartet, including House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and top Senate Republican Mitch McConnell, said they would reconvene Tuesday night in hopes of sealing an agreement soon.

"I think there's progress," reported House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., as he left the session in Pelosi's office. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin joined by phone.

The uptick in activity could be a sign that an agreement is near, though COVID-19 relief talks have been notoriously difficult and Pelosi continues to press for help for states and local governments whose budgets have been thrown out of balance by the pandemic. GOP leaders oppose the idea and say it's the biggest sticking point from their perspective.

A top GOP negotiator said the leaders had essentially agreed to agree.

"We are still talking to each other and there is agreement that we are not going to leave here without the omni and the COVID package," said McConnell, R-Ky., using Capitol Hill's shorthand for a catchall, omnibus spending bill that would be paired together with the COVID relief measure and a variety of other end-of-session items.

The Kentucky Republican is playing a strong hand in the lame-duck session and is pressuring Democrats to drop a much-sought $160 billion state and local government aid package. Several senior Democrats, including close allies of President-elect Joe Biden – who is eager for an agreement – have said they would go along now and fight for the aid next year.

McConnell says he'll drop a demand for provisions shielding businesses from COVID-19-related lawsuits, a key priority of McConnell. He is pressing a lowest-common-denominator approach that would drop the lawsuit shield idea for now if Democrats agree to drop the $160 billion state and local aid package.

"We can live to fight another day on what we disagree on," McConnell said Tuesday. "But we ought to go forward with what we can agree on."

Biden taps Buttigieg for transportation, Granholm for energy

By MICHAEL BALSAMO, JONATHAN LEMIRE, THOMAS BEAUMONT and ELLEN KNICKMEYER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President-elect Joe Biden nominated his former rival Pete Buttigieg as secretary of transportation on Tuesday and intends to choose former Michigan Gov. Jennifer Granholm as his energy secretary.

Biden also plans to tap Gina McCarthy, a former Environmental Protection Agency chief, for the powerful new position of domestic climate chief to run his ambitious climate plans across the federal government.

All three will be central to Biden's plan to remake the country's automobiles and transportation systems to quickly cut climate-damaging petroleum emissions.

Buttigieg would be the first openly gay person confirmed by the Senate to a Cabinet post. At 38, the former mayor of South Bend, Indiana, would also add a youthful dynamic to an incoming administration that is so far dominated in large part by leaders with decades of Washington experience.

Biden said in a statement that Buttigieg was a "patriot and a problem-solver who speaks to the best of who we are as a nation."

Granholm, 61, served as Michigan's attorney general from 1999 to 2003 and two terms as Michigan's first female governor, from 2003 to 2010. She was a supporter of Biden's presidential bid and has spoken out against President Donald Trump's attempts to overturn the election results, accusing him of "poisoning democracy."

The intended selections of Granholm and McCarthy were confirmed by three people who were familiar with one or both of the picks. They spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak publicly before the president-elect's announcement.

Biden is steadily rolling out his choices for Cabinet secretaries, having already selected former Obama adviser Tony Blinken as his secretary of state, retired Army Gen. Lloyd Austin as his secretary of defense and former Fed Chair Janet Yellen as his treasury secretary.

He's also picked former Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack to reprise that role in the Biden administration, and Ohio Rep. Marcia Fudge to serve as housing secretary.

Meanwhile, New Mexico Rep. Deb Haaland is considered a lead contender to become interior secretary despite Democratic worry that her departure would leave them with a perilously thin majority in the House. Haaland, a member of New Mexico's Pueblo of Laguna, would be the first Native American to lead the Interior Department if confirmed.

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ST. JOSEPH

Photos by Don Campbell / HP staff

Candy Cane Lane, based on a children's book, opens today at Milton Park in St. Joseph for self-guided visits.

Walk the Candy Cane Lane

Milton Park is all dressed up for the holidays for self-guided visits

By JULIE SWIDWA
HP Staff Writer

ST. JOSEPH — Where can people read a book while strolling through a decorated park and enjoying a treat?

A new outdoor winter activity, Candy Cane Lane, is ready for visitors at Milton Park in St. Joseph. The park at the corner of Winchester and Niles avenues, is decorated with various candy canes. The exhibit is self-guided.

The candy canes will lead visitors to sections of the story book, "Katie the Candy Cane Fairy," written by Tim Bugbird and illustrated by Ede Lara. Passages from the book are posted throughout the park, along with hidden rocks and a take-home craft item at the pergola. At the end of the lane is an edible candy cane.

Carrie Ogonowski, recreation manager, said Parks Director Greg Grothous saw a similar candy cane hike at a parks and recreation forum he attended.

"We took the idea and changed it to work for our park," she said.

Ogonowski said the event will remain open to visitors through the end of the year, as supplies last.

In the story of "Katie the Candy Cane Fairy," Katie and her sisters star in a Christmas show that is brought to life by their extra-special candy canes. One year, just days before the show, the canes' magical stripes disappear. The fairies fear their show will be a disaster, but the story ends well.

Ogonowski said she looked for a book that included candy canes and was visually very colorful.

"I hope children enjoy it. Preschool and elementary-aged children will probably enjoy it the most. But we encourage people of all ages to walk the park and see the decorations," she said.

ABOVE: The Milton Park display will be geared for children, though people of all ages are welcome, say city officials.

LEFT: Carrie Ogonowski, recreation manager for St. Joseph, helps set up a new outdoor winter activity, Candy Cane Lane, featuring the storybook, Katie the Candy Cane Fairy, at Milton Park in St. Joseph.

The park is always open, and is lit with streetlights, but Ogonowski said the book might be best read during daylight hours.

St. Joseph Mayor Mike Garey praised the city's parks department for coming up with ways to beautify the parks for the holidays.

"It's all these little things our city workers are doing that adds joy to our community," he said.

Contact: jswidwa@TheHP.com, 932-0359, Twitter @HPSwidwa

Zoning request forwarded to planners

Idea is to free up some St. Joseph properties for possible residential use

By JULIE SWIDWA
HP Staff Writer

ST. JOSEPH — A St. Joseph couple is asking the city to consider a zoning ordinance change that would allow residential use on the first floor of buildings in an area zoned Commercial Office.

Jack Sanderson told the St. Joseph City Commission this week that there is a need for more residential housing in the area, while demand is slim for office space located within a converted residence. He said he believes amending the zoning ordinance would address both problems.

Sanderson and his wife, Mary, own some multi-level property on Main Street in the city that is zoned as Commercial Office District, which does not allow residential use on the ground floor. His and many others, he said, are houses that were converted years ago to offices on the main floor and housing on the upper floor, and now the office space is vacant.

Sanderson said he has counted nine places on Main Street between Broad and Hoyt where first floor offices are now vacant.

"We have property two blocks south of city hall. We have good tenants, but getting a commercial tenant nowadays is hard," Sanderson said. "It's a pretty universal problem along there, and I think removing that restriction of no residential on the lower level would be better for the community."

Commissioner Lynn Todman likes the idea.

"I think it's reasonable, and his idea would be consistent with the Master Plan update," she said.

Commissioner Peggy Getty predicted that it's going to get even tougher to rent out office space because many companies have decided through the COVID pandemic that working from home is doable and, in some cases, preferable.

The city commission agreed to forward the request along to the planning commission for study and consideration, as that body is working on a five-year Master Plan update.

"I think it's an excellent recommendation," said Commissioner Jeff Richards.

Mayor Mike Garey agrees.

"These are some high-quality properties, and we need to look at this," he said.

Kristen Gunderson, community development director, said many of the properties along Main Street between Elm and Pearl Street are converted houses with office space on the street level/first floor and one or more residential units on the second floor.

She agreed with the Sandersons that times have changed, and office space located within a converted residence has been difficult to lease.

Meanwhile, she said, creating additional residential units near the downtown has been a goal as both the city's Master Plan and the Downtown Vision and Master Plan are reviewed.

Contact: jswidwa@TheHP.com, 932-0359, Twitter @HPSwidwa

Carousel gets creative with gift shop

Brass Ring shop is open online as attraction remains closed due to pandemic

By JULIE SWIDWA
HP Staff Writer

ST. JOSEPH — The Silver Beach Carousel, which has been closed since mid-March due to the COVID-19 pandemic, is putting a new spin on making the 2020 holidays happier.

The Brass Ring Gift Shop is open online at silverbeachcarousel.com/gift-shop. The Brass Ring is offering an expanded selection of gifts ideas to fit all budgets.

Gifts can be shipped directly to the buyer's or recipient's home for a small fee. Or, for no additional cost, presents can be picked up curbside at the Silver Beach Center, 333 Broad St., St. Joseph, from noon to 2 p.m. on Saturdays through December.

"Carousel-related gifts and toys are not only fun to give, but they will make December a little brighter for the carousel, too," said Suz Schalon, president of the Silver Beach Carousel Society. "Proceeds from each purchase will help the carousel pay its mounting bills since the mid-March closure."

She said financial gifts to the nonprofit carousel also are being accepted and donations will help offset this year's income losses.

Schalon said shoppers can find a variety of stocking stuffers and presents for people of all ages. Gifts for babies and toddlers include a rainmaker rattle and a colorful rolling unicorn toy.

For older children, there is a selection of block animals, a dinosaur puppet, locomotive or a fluffy flamingo pen. Also available is the book, "How Noel (the Silver Beach Carousel horse) Saved Christmas."

For adults, there is a selection of keepsake carousel ornaments, a carousel figure coloring book, a jigsaw puzzle and books about Silver Beach Amusement Park and the carousel.

Also available are specially designed Silver Beach Carousel "Keep Looking Up" face masks made with lightweight fabric. Or, choose the Magical Memories Book that is filled with coupons that can be used when the carousel re-opens.

Patrons can donate to the carousel online at silverbeachcarousel.com or by mailing a check to the Silver Beach Carousel, 333 Broad St., St. Joseph, MI, 49085.

For more information call 932-1141.

Contact: jswidwa@TheHP.com, 932-0359, Twitter @HPSwidwa

IN BRIEF

Free COVID-19 testing available in South Haven

SOUTH HAVEN — Free COVID-19 testing will be available to South Haven area residents this week at the South Haven Police/Fire complex, at 90 Blue Star Highway.

Drive-through testing will be administered from 2:30-6:30 p.m. on Thursday by the Van Buren/Cass Public Health Department.

Tests are available to anyone who wants one, even if they have no symptoms. People with high-risk jobs are encouraged to attend. No appointments, screenings or doctor's order are needed. People do need to bring a form of ID, and minors must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Antibody testing will not be available.

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Life is short; make the most of it

Brian Johnston
Opinion Maker

Last month, we lost my father-in-law, Bruce, unexpectedly at age 57. He died of natural causes, but it was completely unexpected. Bruce was a great man, a deeply spiritual man who also cared about his family and treated everyone he met with respect. He has been missed greatly, and he will continue to be missed throughout this holiday season and beyond.

Bruce's sudden passing has caused me to think a lot about mortality, about how we have limited time here on Earth and how we need to make the most of it. One component of that is to spend as much time with family as possible and to cherish that time that you do get.

Just a few weeks before his passing, Bruce joined us for apple picking over in Kalamazoo. It wasn't anything fancy; it was just a simple time of fellowship and spending time with loved ones. My wife took lots of pictures. It was an enjoyable time, yet we didn't know it would end up being one of our last memories of Bruce.

Also a couple of weeks before he died, he and my mother-in-law took the grandkids on a trip to a theme park as their Christmas present, a tradition that started a few years ago, in place of buying the grandkids presents. In that way, Bruce cherished memories with family more than he cherished material things. He understood what is important.

Unfortunately, we are living in a time right now when gathering with family has become more difficult. A few weeks ago, orders were put in place that restricted the number of people that can gather at one time due to the latest COVID-19 outbreak. While I understand why this was done, many people have missed being able to do the simple things with loved ones, such as going out to eat at a restaurant and spending time together.

Thankfully, we have the technology today that allows us to communicate with loved ones virtually. Yet it just isn't the same as meeting in person. Hopefully, we will be able to get through this outbreak soon so that we can once again gather in person and make memories with our loved ones.

We simply don't know how much longer any of us have here on earth. Nobody is guaranteed tomorrow or even the rest of today. That's why it's so important to be sure we understand how important family is and to make time for them as best as we can. Even if you can't meet with them in person right now, I'd encourage everyone to call your loved ones soon and to do it often. You don't know how many more opportunities you'll have to do it.

Bruce's passing also has caused me to think about my own mortality as well, about the fact that I, too, will die someday. I'm only 35 years old, so it could be a while still, but it also could be in the near future. There's no way to know for sure.

If you were to live your life as if you were running out of time, how much differently would you live? Would you spend more time with your loved ones, as I discussed above? Would you make amends with those with whom you've had disagreements?

Would you make more of an effort to pursue your dreams? Perhaps there's a job or career you want to pursue but keep putting it off because it's "not the right time." Maybe there's a trip you've always wanted to go on but you thought that it was just a dream that maybe you would pursue someday.

You just don't know how much more time you have to pursue those things. And even if you do have a while still, time goes fast; it may not be much longer before you're looking back and realizing that you waited too long to do what you wanted to do.

Our pop culture is filled with books, movies and songs that are about living life to the fullest and not wasting any moment. It's an important message, but sometimes it takes a difficult event in your life to really hit that message home.

As terrible and sad as my father-in-law's passing has been for my family, there's a lot that I am trying to learn from it. I'm going to try to live my life with a renewed purpose, of doing all that I can do to maintain strong relationships with loved ones and to make the most of my life. I hope that's something you want to do as well.

Brian Johnston lives in St. Joseph with his wife and two children. You can find him on Facebook at facebook.com/brianjohnstonwriter.

Give globalism its due for speedy vaccine rollout

Jonah Goldberg

In normal times, most people don't think of vaccines as a political issue at all. But a small minority – one that defies easy pigeonholing on the left or right – thinks vaccines are either unsafe or shouldn't be mandatory or, presumably, both. (At this point I wouldn't be shocked if someone out there thinks they should be mandatory even if unsafe.)

But these aren't normal times. Americans haven't experienced anything like the COVID-19 pandemic in over a century, so the politics are abnormal, too.

For instance, in November, when Pfizer first announced its vaccine, Vice President Mike Pence credited the "public-private partnership forged" by President Trump. Pfizer then denied it was part of Operation Warp Speed, the administration's project to accelerate vaccine development. "We were never part of the Warp Speed," Kathrin Jansen, the head of vaccine research at Pfizer said in an interview. "We have never taken any money from the U.S. government, or from anyone."

It turned out that Pfizer was, in fact, part of the program as a supplier of the vaccine. And while it didn't take money, the federal government did guarantee a major purchase of the vaccine if Pfizer were successful.

During the brief controversy, liberals were cheering the independent entrepreneurialism of the private sector, and conservatives – most notably Pence, who in the pre-Trump era was a forthright champion of the free market – were celebrating the triumph of industrial policy.

As a free market guy, I don't mind this flip-flopping too much. Wars and pandemics are traditional exceptions to the rules of limited government. And it's always nice to see liberals acknowledge the glories of the private sector, even if it's just to deny Trump bragging rights.

The more worrisome and annoying political ploy is the effort to claim these vaccines in the name of nationalism. On Dec. 3, Pence declared that "only in America could you see the kind of innovation that's resulted in the development of a vaccine in record time." Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, recently mocked the Canadian prime minister for relying on an American-made vaccine.

In Britain, Gavin Williamson, the education secretary, made an even bolder claim about their vaccine approval process: "I just reckon we've got the very best people in this country and we've obviously got the best medical regulators, much better than the French have, much better than the Belgians have, much better than the Americans have. That doesn't surprise me at all, because we are a much better country than every single one of them."

It shouldn't surprise anyone that Russia's vaccine, named "Sputnik V," is the subject of a broad nationalist and anti-Western propaganda campaign.

It's all nonsense.

For starters, the vaccine being distributed in Britain was developed by a partnership of Pfizer and BioNTech, American and German companies. More broadly, the effort to defeat the pandemic was, fittingly, a pan-national affair. As Scott Lincicome, a trade scholar and my colleague at The Dispatch, explains, the vaccines Americans will get are a testament to the benefits of globalization. At every stage, "from corporate leadership to investment to research and development to production and distribution," globalization was a major driver of success.

Indeed, BioNTech was founded by two German scientists, both of Turkish descent. The head of Pfizer is Greek. Moderna, based in Cambridge, Mass., was co-founded and is chaired by a Lebanese immigrant. The other co-founder is a Canadian immigrant. Moderna's chief executive is a French immigrant. Biochemist Katalin Kariko, who is central to the development of the messenger RNA technology used in the vaccines, is Hungarian-born.

All of these companies are beneficiaries of global capital markets, global supply chains and, of course, prior scientific achievements that span the globe. The genetic map of the virus was constructed by a Chinese researcher and his team and given, free, to the world.

One of the reasons globalization is such an easy political target is that it is simple to point out its costs but difficult to credit it for its benefits – in part because politicians are so quick to take the credit for themselves.

There's plenty of room for the U.S. to chest-thump about its role in the record-pace rollout of these vaccines. But it's worth keeping in mind that this was a group project on a global scale, and without the benefits of that global scale, we'd surely be waiting a lot longer.

Jonah Goldberg is editor-in-chief of The Dispatch and the host of The Remnant podcast.

LETTERS

Schools working hard to help students succeed

Editor,

Parker, a young man I take care of, is going through virtual learning like most kids are here in Southwest Michigan and I was thinking of all of the educators who cross his path and interact with him on a daily basis at Lakeshore High School.

Because of virtual learning, I get to listen as his teachers and the many dedicated paraprofessionals like Heather Steinbrook instruct and guide him throughout the school day up to and including his principal. Without these valuable members of our community, things would be so much harder for the students. They go out of their way daily to make sure the students have everything they need to succeed.

This situation isn't ideal for the teachers or students and I know they miss face-to-face interaction, but both have made the most amazing pan of lemon squares from the lemons they were handed. And they all deserve a huge huge round of applause.

Shari Wiltfong
St. Joseph

Paquette failed to keep his oath of office

Editor,

Brad Paquette, our state representative in the 78th district, says he believes in government of the people, for the people, by the people. Well, he doesn't.

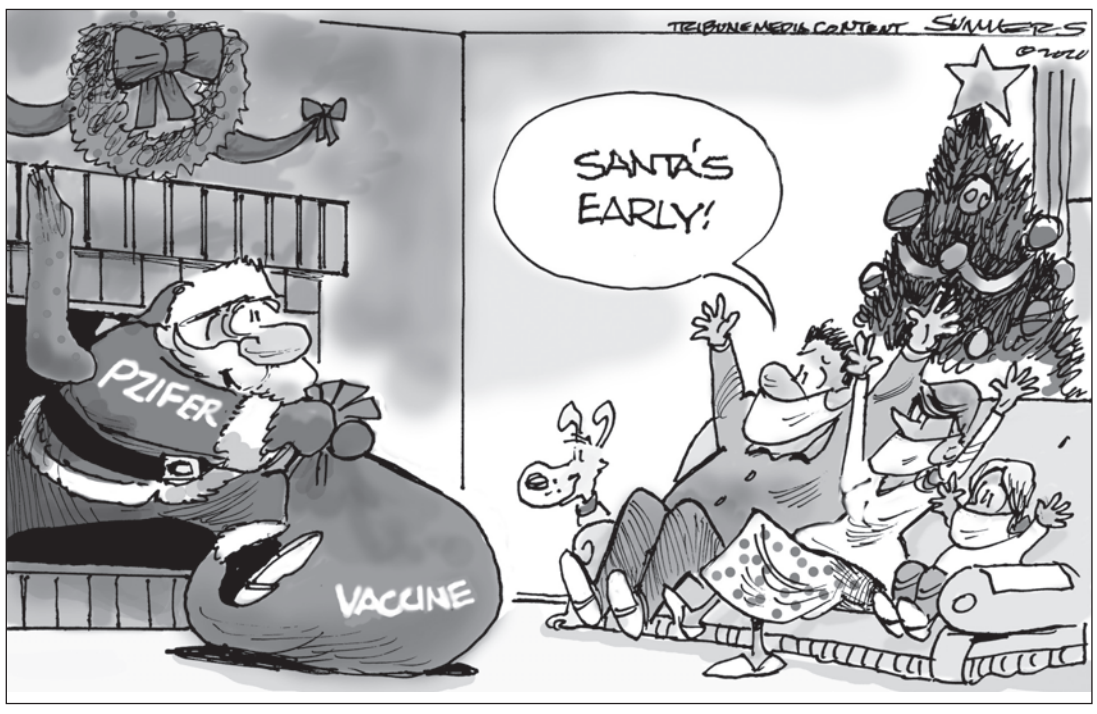
Brad Paquette swore an oath to uphold the Constitution of the United States and the state of Michigan. Well, he didn't.

Last week he signed a brief in support of overturning Michigan's election results. He supports disenfranchising 5.5 million voters who cast their vote on Nov. 3. He supports taking away your vote. He supports disregarding the outcome and the law of Michigan that the winner of the popular vote gets Michigan's 16 electoral votes. He doesn't like the outcome so he supports authoritarian and anti-democracy efforts to get his way.

Biden beat Trump in Michigan by 154,000 votes, 10 times the margin of Trump's 2016 victory. Every court in the state/nation has upheld this. But the law and the oaths mean nothing to Brad Paquette. A lot of people didn't like the outcome of the election in 2016. But no one did what Brad Paquette did, try to throw out the people's vote.

Our democracy is fragile. It held, for now. It's worth fighting for. Democracy is the last best hope of humankind. A man who undermines democracy has no place in government. Remember that.

Cindy Ellis
Sawyer



Trump's laughing all the way to the bank

Editor,

This letter is addressed to those who believe what Trump is saying – that the election was a fraud.

I have a pretty good idea of what he's thinking about you behind your backs. I'd bet he's thinking that he can do or say anything and his followers will go out into the streets and protest, repeating whatever ridiculous thing he tells them. I'm sure he finds it amusing. He knows he lost the election, but is happy to collect the millions they send, and to continue the upheaval.

Have you noticed that he's collected millions of dollars that haven't been spent on his lawsuits? What do you think will happen to that excess, after he loses all of his appeals? Perhaps, funnel it into paying off his (and his family's) enormous debts and failing businesses? Just a guess.

If his followers/donors don't have better things to do with their time and money, it's a sad moral statement of our times.

Kay Schultz
Benton Harbor

Fact is scarier than fiction

Editor,

In the fall of 1938, Orson Welles and the Mercury Theater Radio Company aired their rendition of H.G. Wells' "War of the Worlds." It was an on-the-scene broadcast of Martians invading the Earth.

Those who missed the beginning of the show did not realize what they were hearing was a fictitious story for entertainment. Although the show did not have a huge audience, panic was created because late listeners thought the world was truly being invaded by Martians.

Fast forward to today and a similar situation has been created. The current president has created a false panic to his followers by feeding them a continual diet of unsupported allegations of voter fraud. They have all seemed to tune in late to the process. Biden won. Homeland Security's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency called the Nov. 3 election "the most secure in American history."

Maybe the outgoing president can make a living writing political fiction stories after he leaves office. Because the one he is writing and working on right now is scarier than a Martian invasion.

Dean Hill
Niles

Trump is undermining our democracy

Editor,

Our democracy is under attack by Donald Trump and his corrupt enablers. Trump repeatedly claims (falsely) that the election was "stolen" from him by "massive fraud" orchestrated by "the Democrats." He tries to bully election officials and legislators in swing states to "decertify" the election results and thereby undermine the will of the voters.

What Trump is trying to do is throw out millions of legal ballots submitted in the November election. This would be the ultimate fraudulent election activity! Free and open elections would no longer be one of the cornerstones of our governing system.

Michael Flynn, Trump's first national security adviser, who twice pleaded guilty to lying to federal investigators, has proposed that the president declare "limited martial law," designate the Nov. 3 election null and void, and rerun the election under the auspices of the U.S. military. This is a direct assault on American democracy.

More than 100 congressional Republicans have signed on in support of a totally bogus lawsuit submitted by the attorney general of Texas, who is currently under investigation by the FBI. This lawsuit asks the Supreme Court to throw out the elections results in four swing states: Michigan, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania and Georgia.

Multiple judges, as well as investigations by the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Justice, have found no evidence that the outcome of the election was in any way the result of fraudulent activities in the swing states won by President-elect Joe Biden.

Trump, Flynn and other accomplices are being enabled by the silence of the majority of Republican senators. The cowards know that Joe Biden is the lawfully elected next president, but they are so terrified of Trump's base that they refuse to acknowledge that fact. Instead, they say nothing while democracy is being undermined.

We the people need to remember those who actively or passively supported Trump's shameful behavior and vote them out of office.

Don Holmes
Buchanan

Write us

Here's how to submit a letter to the editor:

Email: letters@TheHP.com

Regular mail: Editorial Page, The Herald-Palladium, P.O. Box 128, St. Joseph, MI 49085

All letters should include a daytime telephone number and street address for verification. Letters must be 500 words or fewer. The Herald-Palladium reserves the right to edit letters for length, style, grammar, inappropriate content and libel. Anonymous letters will not be published.

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Local News Editor Dale Brewer
@HPBrewer

OBITUARIES

Wayne H. Johnson

April 6, 1948 – Dec. 13, 2020

Wayne H. Johnson was born on April 6, 1948, to Benjamin and Lucille Johnson in Benton Harbor.

He passed away peacefully Dec. 13, 2020, in the presence of his beloved family.

He was preceded in death by his parents: Benjamin and Lucille; and sister, Joanne.

Wayne led by example from an early age. He graduated from Benton Harbor High School in 1966 and graduated from Western Michigan University in 1970 with a bachelor's of business administration degree. He began his career at the age of 20 by earning his Michigan master plumber's license. After graduating from college, he owned and operated Ideal Plumbing & Heating and Ideal Sheet Metal in Benton Harbor. He retired in 1997 and began working as a union master plumber for Plumbers & Pipefitters Local 357.

He will be remembered for his commitment and service to his community. Wayne served on the board of the Southwest Michigan Regional Airport Authority, and as a trustee for the Plumbers and Pipefitters' Union Local 357 Pension Fund. He greatly enjoyed participating as a member of the Sons of the American Legion, Post No. 85. Wayne was also a man of faith, regularly attending Trinity Lutheran Church, St. Joseph.

Wayne was a devoted husband, father and grandfather. He is survived by his cherished wife, Natalie (Layman) Johnson, who he married on May 1, 1987. He is also survived by his son, Jason (Ann) Johnson of Ada, Mich.; daughter, Stephanie (Curt) Kurzenhauser of Portland, Ore.; eight grandchildren: Grace, Sofia, Connor, and Private 2nd Class Benjamin Johnson, U.S. Army, and Noah, Zora, Bela and Rose Kurzenhauser; and siblings: Brad (Georgia) Johnson, Jean Johnson, Dean (Milisa) Johnson and Dennis (Wanda) Johnson.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Trinity Lutheran Church, 619 Main St., St. Joseph, MI 49085, or the Humane Society – Southwestern Michigan Yeager Family Pet Shelter, 5400 Niles Rd., St. Joseph, MI 49085 (www.humanesocietyswm.org).

A funeral service will be at 1 p.m., Friday, Dec. 18, at Trinity Lutheran Church, 619 Court St., St. Joseph with Pastor Michael Roth officiating. Burial will follow at Riverview Cemetery in St. Joseph. Friends may visit from 6 to 8 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 17, at Starks & Menchinger Chapel, 2650 Niles Road, St. Joseph.

Those wishing to share a memory of Wayne online may do so at www.starks-menchinger.com.

Betty Jean Ross

Jan. 2, 1926 – Dec. 9, 2020

Betty Jean Ross, 94, of Coldwater, Mich., entered into the arms of her Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, on Wednesday, Dec. 9, 2020, in Coldwater.

Betty was born Jan. 2, 1926, in Canton, Ill., to John and Esther (Bell) Trudgen. She was a graduate of the University of Illinois and was a proud supporter of their sports programs throughout her life.

Betty later moved to St. Joseph, where she became a devoted member of Saron Lutheran Church. She was a Soup Kitchen volunteer, as well as an active participant in the Bible Study Fellowship. She spent many hours volunteering for her church. Betty also enjoyed traveling and performing with her singing group, the Misfits. She was an excellent cook, a skill she enjoyed sharing with her children.

Betty will be missed by her children: Deborah Cox, David (Shelley) Ross, Barbara (Robert) Baptist, and LeeAnne (David) Nagle; eight grandchildren: Dave (Jessica) Cox and Jon Cox, Rachel Nash, Zachary Rickel and Alex Rickel, Ben Baptist, Patricia (Noah) Nagle and Tommy (Stephany) Nagle; and six great-grandchildren.

She is preceded in death by her sister, Mary Nickerson; and her parents.

Due to present circumstances, services for Betty will be postponed until the summer.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be given to Saron Lutheran Church, www.saronlutheran.org.

Those wishing to leave an online condolence for the family at: www.starks-menchinger.com.

Linda Lee Germinder

June 7, 1937 – Dec. 13, 2020

Linda Lee Germinder, 83, of Battle Creek passed away Sunday, Dec. 13, 2020, at Rose Arbor Hospice.

She was born in Galien on June 7, 1937, the daughter of Harvey Fenimore and Lucinda May (Jackson) Swem.

Linda is survived by her children: Jack (Joann) Germinder Jr., Eric (Sally) Germinder, Steven Germinder; six grandchildren: Tina (Davina) Germinder-Metzger, Jack Germinder III, Tricha (Nathan) Grajek, Ryne (Michelle) Germinder, Cody (Kayla) Germinder, Cory (Priscilla) Germinder; and six (soon to be seven) great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Jack Lee Germinder; son, Mark Germinder; daughter, Teresa Hrivnak; granddaughter, Katie Beth Hrivnak; and three brothers and one sister.

Linda was an avid reader. She enjoyed listening to '60s rock, visiting Lake Michigan, watching talk-shows and taking care of all the cats that she had throughout her life. Her main passion in life however, was her children, as she spent her years as a homemaker, taking care of her children and later on extending her love to her grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Calhoun County Medical Care Facility, 1150 E. Michigan Ave., Battle Creek, MI 49014.

At this time cremation has taken place, and service will be held at a later date.

Arrangements by the Baxter Funeral & Cremation Service. www.baxterfuneral.com.

Death notices

Kelly L. Bennett, 55, of Niles died Dec. 13, 2020, at his home. Brown Funeral Home & Cremation Services, 683-1155.

Donna Lynette Robinson Bownes, 53, of South Bend, formerly of Benton Harbor, died Dec. 8, 2020. Robbins Brothers Funeral Home, Benton Harbor, 927-3181.

Milburn Burchfield, 96, of Hartford died Dec. 14, 2020, at the Willows, St. Joseph. Duffield & Pastrick Family Funeral Home and Cremation Services, Coloma, 468-6000.

Juan Cano-Roche, 68, of Watervliet died Dec. 9, 2020, at Lakeland Medical Center, St. Joseph. Robbins Brothers Family Funeral Home, Benton Harbor, 927-3181.

Edsel Carter, 76, of Niles Dec. 15, 2020, at his home. Brown Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Niles, 683-1155.

Mary Crespo, 69, of Niles died Dec.10, 2020. Brown Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Niles, 683-1155.

Florence Crumley, 96, of Berrien Springs died Dec. 13, 2020, at Royalton Manor, St. Joseph. Allred Funeral Home, Berrien Springs, 471-3729.

Marjorie Dalzotto, 87, of New Buffalo died Dec. 14, 2020. Sommerfeld Chapel and Cremation Services, New Buffalo, 469-2233.

Linda Lee Germinder, 83, of Battle Creek died Dec. 13, 2020. Baxter Funeral and Cremation Service, Battle Creek, 269-788-9800.

Ezekiel Guidry Jr., 90, of Benton Harbor died Dec. 12, 2020, at home surrounded by family. Robbins Brothers Funeral Home, Benton Harbor, 927-3181.

Wayne H. Johnson, 72, of Benton Harbor died Dec. 13, 2020. Starks & Menchinger Chapel, St. Joseph, 556-9450.

Ralph A. Liska, 88, of Cassopolis died Dec. 12, 2020, Lakeland Medical Center, Niles. Clark Chapel, Dowagiac, 782-2135.

Danielle Michel, 67, of Berrien Springs died Dec. 13, 2020, at Lakeland Medical Center, St. Joseph. Allred Funeral Home, Berrien Springs, 471-3729.

James Moore Jr., 55, of Benton Harbor died Dec. 3, 2020, in Grand Rapids. Robbins Brothers Funeral Home, Benton Harbor, 927-3181.

Robert J. Ott Jr., 66, of Bridgman died Dec. 14, 2020. Hoven Funeral Home, Buchanan, 695-2363.

Donna Robinson, 53, formerly of Benton Harbor died Dec. 8, 2020, in South Bend. Robbins Brothers Funeral Home, Benton Harbor, 927-3181.

Seigfried J. Siefert, 89, of St. Joseph died Dec. 11, 2020. Starks & Menchinger Chapel, St. Joseph, 556-9450.

Ronald Vorrath, 87, of Buchanan died Dec. 14, 2020, at his home. Allred Funeral Home, Berrien Springs, 471-3729.

Juanita Young, 74, of Benton Township died Dec. 10, 2020. Filbrandt Family Funeral Home, South Haven, 637-0333.

Marjorie Dalzotto

Sept. 6, 1933 – Dec. 14, 2020

Marjorie Dalzotto, 87, of New Buffalo passed away Monday, Dec. 14, 2020, at her home surrounded by her loving family.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Sommerfeld Chapel & Cremation Services, New Buffalo. A celebration of life service will be announced at a later date.

Memorial donations in Marjorie's name may be made to Caring Circle of Lakeland or Lakeside United Methodist Church in Lakeside, Mich. Those wishing to sign Marjorie's memory book online may do so at www.sommerfeldchapel.com.

Marjorie was born Sept, 6, 1933, in Gary, Ind., to Lawrence and Wilma (Barnes) Singleton.

On May 22, 1954, she married William Dalzotto in Gary, Ind. Marjorie devoted her life to raising her children and caring for her family. While her children were still young, she returned to school to earn a bachelor's degree in education from Indiana University. Marjorie was employed for 23 years by New Buffalo Public Schools as an elementary teacher, retiring in 1997. She was a member of Lakeside United Methodist Church.

Marjorie is survived by four children: Diana (Brian) Holt of Long Beach, Ind., William (Mary Faith) Dalzotto Jr., of Valparaiso, Ind., Linda (Kris) Mayer of West Bloomfield, Mich., Valerie (the late Mike) Price of Arvada, Colo.; six grandchildren: Jessica (Adam) Calderon, Leah (fiancé Brad Stevens) Wells, Amanda Garza, Erika (Alexander) Berman, Katherine (husband Adam Jones) Dalzotto, Andrew (Cortney) Holt; six great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, William Sr., on March 7, 2005; her son-in-law, Mike Price; and siblings: Ronald Singleton, Judith Bardsley, and Geraldine Singleton.

Pamela E. Crawley

March 7, 1951 – Dec. 9, 2020

Pamela E. Crawley, 69, of Watervliet passed away Wednesday, Dec. 9, 2020, at Lakeland Medical Center, St. Joseph after a brief illness.

Cremation has taken place and a memorial service will be at a later date when all the family members and friends can gather together. Duffield & Pastrick Family Funeral Home is assisting the family. Those wishing to leave a message or share a memory with the family online may do so at www.duffieldpastrick.com.

Pam was born in Benton Harbor on March 7, 1951, to William and Geraldine Semand. She was a graduate of Coloma High School.

Pam worked at several companies over the years, including Clark Equipment Company and Sears. Most recently she was employed as a greeter at the Stevensville Meijer store. Pam was a cat lover and enjoyed listening to country music. She and her husband, Bill, enjoyed spending time together and would visit local flea markets and rummages searching for ceramic figurines of small animals and angels to add to her collection.

Pam is survived by her husband, Bill; daughter, Crystal (William) Schutz of Glendale, Ariz.; son, Curt Tingue of Battle Creek; four sisters: Shirley (Ron) Stavinga of Hinsdale, Ill., Therese Wake of Phoenix, Shelly (Jim) Vincent of Sydney, Australia, and Janis (Clay) Greiffendorf of South Haven; two step-sisters: Susan Banks and Nancy Scott of Frankfort, Ky; one step-brother, Kenneth Jackson; four grandchildren: Leanna Schutz, James Schutz, Alexis Tingue, and Mercedes Tingue; and three great-grandchildren: Mila, Madison and Elijah.

Pam was preceded in death by her parents.

Seigfried J. Siefert

Feb. 16, 1931 – Dec. 11, 2020

Seigfried J. Siefert, 89, of St. Joseph, formerly Chicago Heights, Ill., passed away peacefully Friday, Dec. 11, 2020 at The Willows, St. Joseph.

Seigfried was born on Feb 16, 1931, in Saxony, Germany.

He married the former Ursula Sinkwitz in February of 1951.

Seigfried worked as a tool & die maker at Ford Motor Company for over 30 years. He loved music, arts and was a founding member of the Illiana Jazz Club.

Seigfried is survived by his wife of 69 years, Ursula Siefert; daughters: Viola (Lawrence) Wuske and Victoria (Mark) Thies; five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; and sons: Ingo and Gilbert Siefert.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Starks & Menchinger Chapel, St. Joseph. Those wishing to send a condolence online may do so at www.starks-menchinger.com. Memorial contributions may be made to the Humane Society – Southwestern Michigan Yeager Family Pet Shelter.

Donna Lynette Robinson Bownes

Nov. 16, 1967 – Dec. 8, 2020

Donna Lynette Robinson Bownes, 53, of South Bend, formerly of Benton Harbor departed this life Dec. 8, 2020, at home.

A memorial service will be Dec. 17, at Robbins Brothers Funeral Home, Benton Harbor. Friends may gather at 11 a.m. with the service beginning at noon. Those wishing to sign the guest book online may do so at www.robbinsbrothersfh.com.

Donna was born on Nov. 16, 1967, to Elder John A. and Maxine D. Robinson.

She graduated from Benton Harbor High School in 1986, and attended LMC and KVCC.

She had blessed so many families with her service as a daycare owner in which she had retired and moved to Mishawaka.

Donna married the love of her life, Albert Lee Bownes, in November 1991. Their union produced three beautiful daughters: Royetta (Donovan) Bownes-Blow of Indianapolis, Fannie Bownes Washington of South Bend, and Kayla (Derek Mosley) Bownes of Mishawaka; eight grandchildren; one great-grandchild; sisters: Pastor Carolyn Robinson Williams of Louisville, and Denise (Anthony) Robinson Mathison of Mishawaka; brothers: John (Beth Ann) A. Robinson Jr.; adopted brothers: Kenneth (Karen) Halsey of Gardena, Calif., Terry (Denise) Mason of South Haven, and Jerome (Cathy) Berry of Benton Harbor. Her god-mother, Bernice Thomas; a god-sister, Zikeia (Charrell) Jones; and a host of aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, special cousins, and friends.

Donna was preceded in death by her loving parents: Elder John Amos and Maxine McCoy Robinson Sr.; and brother, Andrew K. Robinson Sr.

Juanita Young

Sept. 5, 1946 – Dec. 10, 2020

Juanita Young, 74, of Benton Township passed away Thursday, Dec. 10, 2020, at Lakeland Medical Center, St. Joseph.

Juanita was born on Sept. 5, 1946, to Robert Young and Melissa (Powell) Tyler in Chicago.

Juanita loved reading, traveling, working in the yard, and spending time with her grandchildren.

She is preceded in death by her parents; and siblings: Willia Mae Jordan, Leona Young, Annie Watkins, Robert Tyler, and Jimmy Young.

Juanita is survived by her children: Kristopher (Hazel) Young of Columbus, Ohio, and Tisa Young of Benton Harbor; grandchildren: Terry Young, Johaya Young, Daynise Williams, Aniyah Young, Samantha Young, Daniel Young, and Akeem Warren Jr.; sisters: Georgia Young of South Haven, and Freddie Williams of Chicago.

A wake will be from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 16, at the Filbrandt Family Funeral Home. Funeral services will follow the wake at 11 a.m. with the Rev. Rodney Gulley officiating at the funeral home. Juanita will be laid to rest at Covert Cemetery near her sister Annie.

Kindly share your thoughts and memories on the family's online guest book at www.FilbrandtFFH.com. The family is being helped by the Filbrandt Family Funeral Home in South Haven.

James Moore Jr.

Aug. 4, 1965 – Dec. 3, 2020

James Moore Jr., 55, was born at sunrise on Aug. 4, 1965.

He passed away at sunset on Dec. 3, 2020.

He was a lovable happy man full of life. He touched many souls with his contagious smile and funny jokes.

His home going service will be Friday, Dec. 18, at Robbins Brother Funeral Home, 204 S. Fair Ave., Benton Harbor, MI 49022. Visitation time is 10 a.m. to noon.

Federal officials to delay seeking legal protection for monarch butterfly

By JOHN FLESHER
AP Environmental Writer

TRAVERSE CITY — Federal officials on Tuesday declared the monarch butterfly "a candidate" for threatened or endangered status, but said no action would be taken for several years because of the many other species awaiting that designation.

Environmentalists said delaying that long could spell disaster for the beloved black-and-orange butterfly, once a common sight in backyard gardens, meadows and other landscapes now seeing its population dwindling.

The monarch's status will be reviewed annually, said Charlie Wooley, head of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Great Lakes regional office. Emergency action could be taken earlier, but plans now call for proposing to list the monarch under the Endangered Species Act in 2024 unless its situation improves enough to make the step unnecessary.

The proposal would be followed by another year for public comment and development of a final rule. Listing would provide a number of legal protections, including a requirement that federal agencies consider effects on the butterfly or its habitat before allowing highway construction and other potentially damaging activities.

Scientists estimate the monarch population in the eastern U.S. has fallen about 80 percent since the mid-1990s, while the drop-off in the western U.S. has been even steeper.

"We conducted an intensive, thorough review using a rigorous, transparent science-based process and found that the monarch meets listing criteria under the Endangered Species Act," Fish and Wildlife Service Director Aurelia Skipwith said in a statement. "However, before we can propose listing, we must focus resources on our higher-priority listing actions."

DO YOU REMEMBER?

1995 – 25 years ago

Berrien Springs Village Church will consecrate its new Johannus Excellent Organ during a special church service Dec. 23. Members have been saving toward the organ for more than two years, and it's completely paid for. Presiding at the organ for the service will be C. Warren Becker, recently retired organist at Pioneer Memorial Church, located at Andrews University.

1985 – 35 years ago

The Benton Township Planning Commission voted Thursday night to recommend approval of a special use permit for a counseling center and a home for unwed mothers-to-be in Fairplain. The permit for the Harbor Haven Lifeline Love Center must still be approved by the township board. The Rev. James Seward, who will operate the center with his wife, Esther, said women who live at the shelter will leave after their babies are born.

1970 – 50 years ago

Participants in the Berrien County Day Program for the Hearing Impaired will present their annual Christmas program Dec. 16 at Sylvester Elementary School in Berrien Springs. The program, under the direction of Mrs. Peg Atwood, will be narrated by Rex Frisbee, Rhonda Fiwek and Cheryl Spruell. The children in the program come from Cass, Van Buren and Berrien counties.

TODAY IN HISTORY

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Wednesday, Dec. 16, the 351st day of 2020. There are 15 days left in the year.

Highlight in history:

On Dec. 16, 2000, President-elect George W. Bush selected Colin Powell to become the first African-American secretary of state.

On this date:

In 1773, the Boston Tea Party took place as American colonists boarded a British ship and dumped more than 300 chests of tea into Boston Harbor to protest tea taxes.

In 1809, the French Senate granted a divorce decree to Emperor Napoleon I and Empress Josephine (the dissolution was made final the following month).

In 1811, the first of the powerful New Madrid earthquakes struck the central Mississippi Valley with an estimated magnitude of 7.7.

In 1905, the entertainment trade publication Variety came out with its first weekly issue.

In 1944, the World War II Battle of the Bulge began as German forces launched a surprise attack against Allied forces through the Ardennes Forest in Belgium and Luxembourg (the Allies were eventually able to turn the Germans back).

In 1950, President Harry S. Truman proclaimed a national state of emergency in order to fight "world conquest by Communist imperialism."

In 1960, 134 people were killed when a United Air Lines DC-8 and a TWA Super Constellation collided over New York City.

In 1980, Harland Sanders, founder of the Kentucky Fried Chicken restaurant chain, died in Shelbyville, Kentucky, at age 90.

5-Day Forecast for St. Joseph

Today	Tonight	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Few Showers	Mostly Cloudy
34°	27°	36° / 28°	39° / 33°	41° / 31°	40° / 32°

Local Outlook

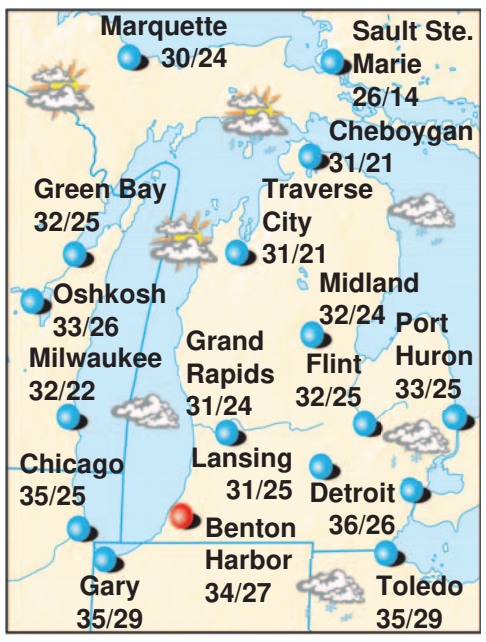
Today we will see cloudy skies with a slight chance of isolated snow, high of 34°, humidity of 73%. East northeast wind 8 to 11 mph. Expect mostly cloudy skies tonight, overnight low of 27°. Northeast wind 3 to 8 mph. The wind chill for tonight could reach 21°.

Sun and Moon

Sunrise ..... 8:08 a.m.
Sunset ..... 5:15 p.m.
Moonrise ..... 10:14 a.m.
Moonset ..... 7:22 p.m.

First	Full	Last	New
12/21	12/29	1/6	1/13

Regional Map



Local Almanac

Benton Harbor Yesterday

Temperature

High	31°
Low	21°
Normal High	35°
Normal Low	21°
Record High	56° in 2011
Record Low	-7° in 2010

Precipitation

Yesterday	0.00"
Month to date	1.18"
Normal for month	1.15"
Year to date	33.21"
Normal Year to date	36.48"

Air Quality

Yesterday 59
Main Offender ..... Particles

The higher the number, the greater the need for people with respiratory problems to reduce outside activity.

0-50 ..... Good
51-100 ..... Moderate
101-150 .... Sensitive
151-200 .. Unhealthy

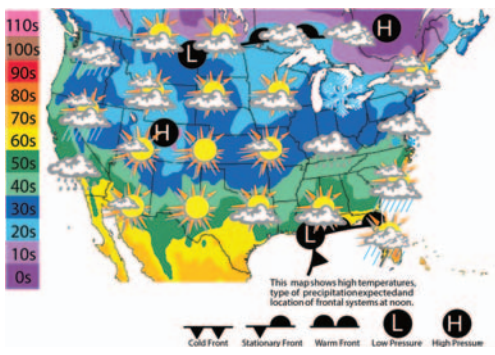
Weather Trivia

What year was the costliest drought in U.S. history?

Answer: The drought of 1988, with losses greater than 40 billion dollars.

National Weather Map

Forecast map for Dec. 16, 2020



For latest weather updates: **www.UpdatedWx.com/HP**

Lake Michigan

Today, E wind 12 to 14 kt, with gusts as high as 20 kt. A slight chance of snow showers. Waves around 1 ft. Water temperature 32 degrees. Tonight, ENE wind 7 to 12 kt.

Michigan Forecast

Upper Peninsula

Today, skies will be mostly cloudy with scattered snow showers, highs in the 20s and 30s. East southeast wind 8 to 11 mph. Expect mostly cloudy skies Thursday with highs in the 20s and 30s. East wind 2 to 6 mph.

Lower Peninsula

Today, skies will be cloudy with scattered snow, highs in the 30s. East northeast wind 8 to 11 mph. Expect mostly cloudy skies Thursday with highs in the 30s. Light winds.

VACCINES

From page A1

Tech vaccine began arriving Tuesday at more than 400 additional hospitals and other distribution sites.

The first 3 million shots are being strictly rationed to front-line health workers and nursing home patients, with hundreds of millions more shots needed over the coming months to protect most Americans.

The rollout provided a measure of encouragement to exhausted doctors, nurses and other hospital staffers around the country.

Maritza Beniquez has had a front-row seat to the devastation the COVID-19 pandemic has wrought on communities of color in New Jersey, so she jumped at the chance to take the vaccine that is being hailed as a turning point in the long and grueling battle against the virus.

The 56-year-old emergency room nurse at Newark's University Hospital became the first person in New Jersey to receive the vaccine on Tuesday. All recipients will get a second shot a few weeks later.

"I'm happy that in another month and a half I won't have to be afraid to go into a room anymore. I won't have to be afraid to perform chest compressions or be present when they're intubating a patient," Beniquez said. "I don't want to be afraid anymore, and I don't want to have that risk of taking it home to my own family and my own friends."

Widespread acceptance of the vaccine is critical to eventually protecting enough of the U.S. population to defeat the outbreak. But just half of Americans say they want to get vaccinated, while about a quarter don't and the rest are unsure, according to a recent poll by The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Health Research.

In Manchester, New Hampshire, intensive care unit nurse Heidi Kukla said she volunteered to get the shot first to help dispel fears about the vaccine's long-term effects and the speed with which it was developed.

"I know a lot of people have reservations about getting the vaccine," she said after getting vaccinated at Elliot Hospital. "But I can assure you that there is absolutely nothing worse than being a patient on a ventilator in an ICU anywhere in this country right now with COVID."

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, a childhood polio survivor, urged elected officials to "step up" and get vaccinated.

"We really need to get the country vaccinated," he said. "It's the right thing to do for yourself, for your family and for the country."

HEALTH

From page A1

community that has lost its local public health department leader during the pandemic. Top public health officials in 20 states have left state-level departments, and an untold number of lower-level staffers has also departed.

Many of the leaders exited due to political blowback or pandemic pressure. Some left to take higher-profile positions or due to health concerns. Others were fired for poor performance. Dozens retired.

"We don't have a long line of people outside of the door who want those jobs," said Dr. Gianfranco Pezzino, health officer in Shawnee County, Kansas, who had decided to retire from his job at the end of the year. "It's a huge loss that will be felt probably for generations to come."

But Pezzino could not even make it to Dec. 31. On Monday, after county commissioners loosened restrictions, he immediately stepped down.

The departures are a further erosion of the nation's already fragile public health infrastructure ahead of the largest vaccination campaign in U.S. history. AP and KHN previously reported that per capita spending for state public health departments had dropped by 16 percent, and for local health departments by 18 percent, since 2010. At least 38,000 state and local public health jobs have disappeared since the 2008 recession.

Since the pandemic began, the public health workforce in Kansas has been hit hard – 17 of the state's 100 health departments have lost leaders since the end of March.

Democratic Gov. Laura Kelly issued a mask mandate in July, but the state legislature allowed counties to opt out. A recent Centers for Disease Control and Prevention report showed the 24 Kansas counties that had upheld the mandate saw a 6 percent decrease in COVID-19, while the 81 counties that opted out entirely saw a 100 percent increase.

Coleman pushed for Linn County to uphold the rule, but commissioners wrote that masks are "not necessary to protect the public health and safety of the county."

Coleman was disappointed but not surprised. "At least I know I've done everything I can to attempt to protect the people," she said.

In Idaho, hundreds of protesters, some armed, swarmed health district offices and health board members' homes in Boise on Dec. 8, screaming and blaring air horns. They included members of the anti-vaccination group Health Freedom Idaho. The anti-vaccine movement has linked up with political extremists on the right, experts said, and taken on a larger anti-science role, pushing back against other public health measures.

Now, opponents are turning to state legislatures and even the Supreme Court to strip public officials of the legal power they've held for decades to stop foodborne illnesses and infectious diseases by closing businesses and quarantining individuals, among other measures.

SURPRISE

From page A1

wanted to bring several people."

Todd, who graduated from St. Joseph High School in 1954, said he's a big supporter of education. His donations stretch to other educational institutions, including Lake Michigan College.

Riemland said these donations go a long way for the district.

"We talk all the time about providing tools to our teachers and students," she said. "It's so important that we are able to do that, especially during the pandemic. We're so fortunate we have community that supports us in this effort."

The Student Foundation, whose members started dropping off the gift bags this weekend, is comprised of students selected through teacher recommendations. They take on projects and create projects of their own based on needs in the school.

Don Campbell / HP staff

Edward Todd thanks students for their cards and kindness.

Sylvia Park, a senior at the high school and president of the foundation, was among those in attendance for Todd's surprise.

"I thought it would be a nice gesture," she said. "It was great to do this."

Contact: twittkowski@TheHP.com, 932-0358, Twitter: @TonyWittkowski

3 DAYS ONLY!
Seafood Road Show
From Your First Choice Meat Store!
Thursday, December 17 thru Saturday, December 19 10am-6pm
(while supplies last)
Colossal Red King Crab Legs
Colossal Raw Tiger Shrimp
Colossal Cooked Cocktail Shrimp
Premium Lobster Tails
Jumbo Scallops
Check out our FRESH FILLET FEATURES...and more!
Roger's
F • O • O • D • L • A • N • D
"Your Friendly Neighborhood Store!"
Corner of Hollywood and Glenlord, St Joseph
269.429.9661

hp SPORTS

Cookbooks make great holiday gifts
Food, Page B6

Lingering COVID-19 issues force U-M to cancel Iowa game

By ANGELIQUE S. CHENGELIS
The Detroit News (TNS)

Michigan was forced to cancel its third straight football game because more than 50 football players would not have been available to play at Iowa, according to athletic director Warde Manuel.

Manuel, in announcing the COVID-19-related cancellation of the game Saturday night, said the Wolverines would have been without a "significant number of players" for the final game of the abbreviated Big Ten season during "champions week." Michigan canceled its final three games, including Maryland and Ohio State.

Manuel indicated in his statement Tuesday that the COVID issues on top of "normal attrition due to injury" stretched the Wolverines thin at several position groups. He said there were more players out this week compared to the two prior weeks. Michigan, which last played Nov. 28 in a loss to Penn State, finishes the season 2-4.

"The number of positive tests over the past three weeks, which require a 21-day unavailability period, and the contact tracing requirements associated with those numbers has pushed our current list of unavailable student-athletes to over 50," Manuel said in a statement.

"I am very proud of the way that our players worked to try and get back onto the field but the numbers simply don't support us taking the field on Saturday. This has been a very challenging and difficult 2020 for everyone and we want to make sure we are doing what is right for our student-athletes at every step along the way, and that ultimately is ensuring their health, safety and welfare."

Earlier on Tuesday, Indiana and Purdue mutually agreed to cancel their "champions week" game scheduled for Friday because of COVID issues. The teams canceled the matchup a week earlier for the same reason.

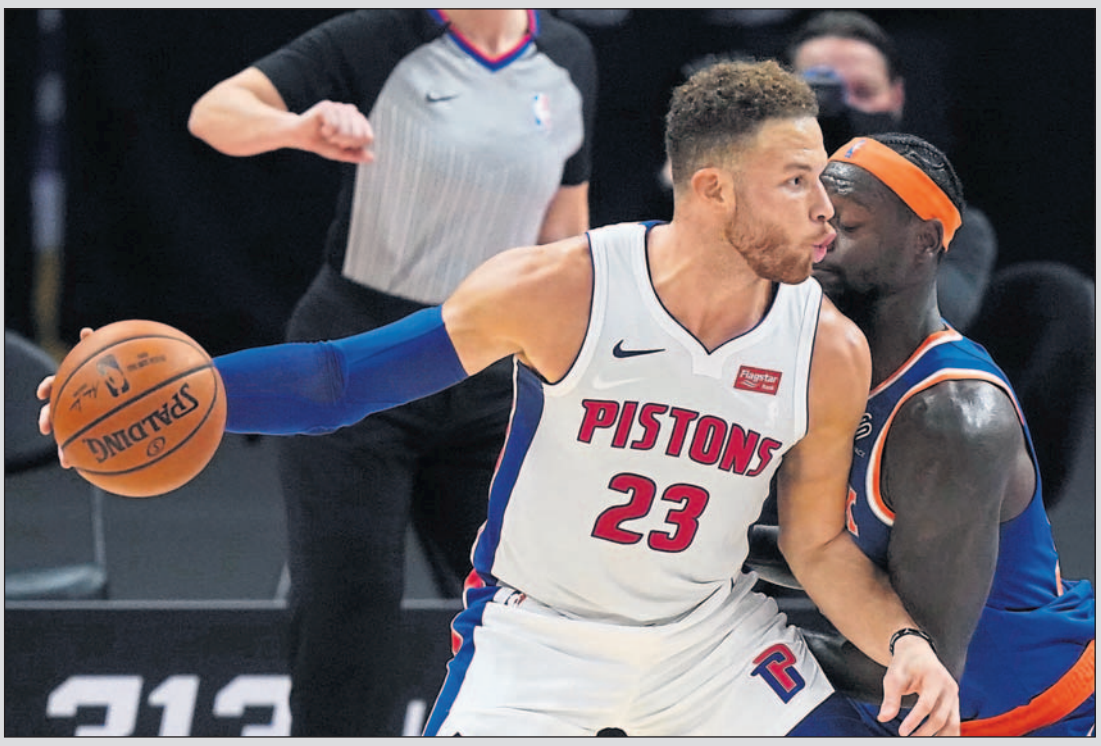
A week ago, Michigan canceled its annual rivalry game with Ohio State, and that followed a cancellation of the final home game of the season against Maryland. It is unclear whether there's a bowl-game option for Michigan, but that seems unlikely.

Ohio State plays Northwestern for the Big Ten championship on Saturday, but the Big Ten added this ninth game – dubbed champions week – as a bonus crossover game for the remaining teams. It did not play out as expected, though. Michigan, the bottom team in the Big Ten East, was scheduled to play at No. 18 Iowa, the second best team in the West behind Northwestern, on Saturday at 7 p.m. The Hawkeyes, who have won six straight, are arguably the hottest team in the conference.

Michigan coach Jim Harbaugh said Monday the team practiced Sunday and

See **MICHIGAN**, page B2

New NBA season offers optimism



Carlos Osorio / AP

Detroit Pistons forward Blake Griffin (23) is defended by New York Knicks forward Julius Randle during the first half of a preseason game Friday.

Offseason overhaul gives Pistons a fresh start of sorts

By NOAH TRISTER
Associated Press

DETROIT — This offseason was such a whirlwind for the Detroit Pistons, it was easy to forget that Blake Griffin is still part of the roster – sort of a last star standing after a flurry of moves by the team's new general manager.

Griffin sounds ready to embrace whatever the future holds.

"If developing young guys is the goal for this season, then I'll do whatever they ask of me," Griffin said recently. "I'll spend more time with the young guys, I'll try to teach more, listen more, whatever it is."

Only four players who appeared in games for the Pistons last season are on the roster now. The rebuild began in earnest when Andre Drummond was traded in February. Then new GM Troy Weaver took over in June, and by the time the draft and free agency rolled around, he was ready to shake up the team.

Griffin, Derrick Rose, Sekou Doumbouya and Svi Mykhailiuk are still around. The rest of the roster is new acquisitions with a variety of skill sets and experience levels. For a team that hasn't won a playoff game since 2008, a new start made sense, but this could be a bumpy ride at first.

"The whole goal is to put a competitive team on the floor that the city and the community can be proud of," Weaver said. "We'll let the chips fall after that, but we want to be competitive, and we want a team with an identity that fits Detroit, and I think we're headed in the right direction. So that's step number one."

Gone are Drummond, Luke Kennard, Bruce Brown and Christian Wood, among others. Now Detroit welcomes Jerami Grant, Mason Plumlee, Josh Jackson, Jahlil Okafor and Wayne Ellington. The Pistons' wheeling and dealing also meant they ended up with three first-round draft picks this year. They used those on Killian Hayes, Isaiah Stewart and Saddiq Bey.

Griffin's health

Griffin had a terrific 2018-19, but he was limited in the playoffs that season and played only 18 games last season. That's been an all-too-familiar problem for Griffin with both the Pistons and the Los Angeles Clippers. He's averaged only 49 games over the

See **PISTONS**, page B2

Bulls set different course with new management, coach

By ANDREW SELIGMAN
Associated Press

CHICAGO — The Chicago Bulls made sweeping changes to their front office and snagged one of the top coaches on the market, hoping an overhaul in leadership will carry them back to respectability.

After the past few seasons, that would be a huge improvement.

Though their roster remains largely intact, the Bulls come into the season with a new direction and a different outlook.

They hired Arturas Karnisovas to lead their basketball operation and Marc Eversley as general manager. The new management team made big splash when Billy Donovan accepted an offer to become the coach, a bold move by a franchise not known for them.

But these aren't the same old Bulls.

Chairman Jerry Reinsdorf and president Michael Reinsdorf – his son – decided to act after Chicago finished 11th in the Eastern Conference at 22-43 and were one of eight teams left out of the Orlando bubble when the pandemic-shortened season resumed. It was the fourth time in five years the Bulls missed the playoffs.

Chicago hired Karnisovas out of Denver's front office as executive vice president of basketball operations while shifting John Paxson into an advisory role after nearly two decades as the top decision maker.

The Bulls fired former general manager Gar Forman and brought in Eversley from Philadelphia.

They also let former Jim Boylen go with a 39-84 record in less than two full seasons and replaced him with a coach who has a winning history.

Donovan led Oklahoma City to a 243-157 record and playoff appearances in each of his five years. Before joining the Thunder, he coached Florida to two NCAA championships over 19 seasons.

The Bulls scheduled to open

See **BULLS**, page B2

Nam Y. Huh / AP

Chicago Bulls guard Zach LaVine dunks against the Phoenix Suns during the first half of a Feb. 22 game. Lavine is coming off his best season, averaging a career-high 25.5 points in his sixth year in the NBA and third in Chicago.

Lions hire Chris Spielman to help with GM and coach searches

By JUSTIN ROGERS
The Detroit News (TNS)

To take the Detroit Lions where they want to go, the franchise is reaching back into its past.

Amidst concerns leadership didn't have anyone with a football background assisting the team's search for a new coach and general manager, the Lions announced Tuesday that Chris Spielman is being brought on as a full-time special assistant to owner Sheila Ford Hamp and team president Rod Wood.

"I've been approached over the years for different opportunities within football," Spielman said. "I really do think that this is the absolute right time to get involved. I'm really excited. I can't tell you how excited I am about the opportunity. The Lions are part of my identity; they always have been, they always will be."

Drafted by the Lions out of Ohio State in 1988, Spielman spent his first eight seasons with the organization, earning All-Pro honors three times during that stretch. He remains the franchise's all-time leading tackler.

"Chris Spielman has been a tremendous ambassador for the Detroit Lions since the day he first put on a uniform as a rookie in 1988," Ford Hamp said in a statement. "He brings great passion for people and the game of football, and we are thrilled to have him on board to help lead our team. This position is a full-time opportunity for Chris that will allow him to work across various departments on both the football and business sides of our organization."

Paul Sancya / AP

Chris Spielman, former Detroit Lions linebacker, appears during a game against the Seattle Seahawks on Oct. 28, 2018.

After retiring from the NFL in 1999, Spielman transitioned into a broadcast career, working for both ESPN and Fox Sports. Since 2016, he's served as a color

See **LIONS**, page B2

No. 3 Buckeyes have something to prove in Big Ten title game

By MITCH STACY
Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio — A group of university administrators on a Zoom call decided Ohio State would play in the Big Ten championship game. Now the No. 3 Buckeyes are eager to show that not only are they the dominant team in the conference, but they also unequivocally deserve a spot in the College Football Playoff.

They do that by winning big Saturday.

Ohio State (5-0, CFP No. 4) can collect a fourth straight conference title by beating No. 15 Northwestern, but they're also seeking style points – a good thumping of the Wildcats on national TV to firm up their place in the national rankings.

In other words, the Buckeyes are motivated to dominate.

"Oh, we've definitely got something to prove," All-American cornerback Shaun Wade said Tuesday. "Like I've been telling a lot of my teammates, we got to blow them out. We have to come to play and show the world what we can do."

Because of COVID-19 issues, Ohio State was left with just five regular season games, one short of the threshold to play in the championship game set by the conference before the start of the pandemic-delayed season. Conference administrators last week voted to change the rule so the Buckeyes, who had already clinched the Big Ten East, could compete for the title and be better positioned to play for a national crown.

That came at the expense of Indiana, which at 6-1 had enough games in but had lost to Ohio State 42-35 on Nov. 21. Social media heated up with criticism aimed at the Buckeyes, whose body of work isn't as comprehensive as other top teams.

Let the people talk, said Ohio State's Justin Fields, who on Tuesday was named Big Ten Offensive Player of the Year and Quarterback of the Year.

"We're one of the top four teams in the country for sure, and I think we control our destiny," Fields said. "If we go out there on Saturday and handle business like we're supposed to, we should be where we want to be."

Tight end Jeremy Ruckert acknowledged the Buckeyes need to win and look

See **BIG TEN**, page B2

MICHIGAN

From page B1

expected to practice this week except on Tuesday, an off day because of final exams.

And so ends Michigan's part in strange football season that wasn't going to happen, then happened. Michigan and most football teams across the country did not participate in spring practice because on-campus activities were halted in mid-March in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Big Ten postponed a 10-game conference-only schedule in August shortly after releasing the schedule and after teams had begun preseason camp. Several Michigan parents organized a #WeWanttoPlay protest outside of Michigan Stadium on Sept. 5, which would have been the Wolverines' season opener, and Harbaugh joined the group during the march. A few weeks later, the Big Ten, bolstered by the availability of daily rapid testing, released a nine-game schedule that began Oct. 24.

To make this season happen for players across the country, it became about daily testing and following protocols. In the end, two-time Michigan captain Carlo Kemp, a senior defensive tackle who was among players who protested in September, said he has no regrets.

"It was worth everything," Kemp said Monday during a news conference. "It was worth every bit of training since March, figuring out what those next couple months over quarantine was going to look like coming back. Just being so excited just to finally be back. We've never had an experience like this. Never had a break for three or four continuous months before and then you come back in June and you get to be back with everybody you haven't seen, which felt like an eternity.

"Get back to work, even though it looked a little bit different. Start lifting again, start working out. Start practicing, have (the season) get canceled, figure out what we're going to do then. Start protesting because we want to play. Get the season back."

Kemp knows the evaluation of this season won't be kind because of the Wolverines' 2-4 record, but he said the experience has been layered for all the players.

"There's a whole lot that's gone into this journey," he said. "The season, of course, will be defined by how many wins and losses that you have, that's just the nature of football and the nature of the game that we play. But there's so much other growth and so many other accomplishments that we've accomplished as a team. So much adversity we've had to fight through. There were plenty of opportunities to give up, give in and see where this season goes. Every week we've come into this building just wanting to get better and doing everything in our power to win on Saturdays.

"Being able to protest was a cool opportunity and being able to play and go through these ups and these downs with all your teammates is definitely a lot better than not playing. There have been a whole lot of other accomplishments that we've got to experience, and these are the memories you play for that you would not have been able to have with no season. This is what you take with you when the season's over."

Linebacker Josh Ross said he does not second-guess playing this season. The players and coaches knew what they were getting into, he said, and they knew what COVID issues could do to their plans.

"Despite the season not going the way we particularly planned, that don't mean I regret playing the season," Ross said Tuesday before Michigan announced the cancellation.

Michigan had a few opt-outs before the season. Right tackle Jalen Mayfield returned but was injured early and didn't play out the season. Receiver Nico Collins and cornerback Ambry Thomas decided to prepare for the NFL. The players said they wanted to play this season, and offensive lineman Andrew Stueber said Tuesday they were willing to go through any protocols to do so.

"We're fortunate everyone on this team was so good up until two weeks ago when Thanksgiving hit, which was just a tough scenario for all," Stueber said. "This season we've been very good with COVID protocols. …Everyone was fully on board with supporting all the COVID protocols in order to play the sport they love."

Stueber acknowledged that all of this did make it difficult mentally. He said "a lot" of teammates were feeling some mental stress and having the last two weeks off for those not in quarantine was helpful.

"You don't understand unless you go through it, going from your house to the facility and back for a couple months on end. It gets pretty relentless," Stueber said. "Being worried to leave your house in case of coming in contact with anyone is also not the best feeling, but it was a weird year overall."

Like his teammates, Stueber has no regrets about getting on the field this season.

"I couldn't imagine not playing this fall," he said.

Matt Cashore / AP

Syracuse defensive back Ja'Had Carter (11) runs after an interception as Notre Dame wide receiver Ben Skowronek (11) attempts to tackle in the second half of a Dec. 5 game.

Clemson next for soon to be Lea-less Notre Dame defense

By JOHN FINERAN
Associated Press

SOUTH BEND — Clark Lea is on the way out at Notre Dame just as his defense has been on the way up.

The 38-year-old Lea, a Tennessee native, was named head coach at alma mater Vanderbilt on Monday. Before he focuses on rebuilding the Commodores, the second-ranked Fighting Irish (10-0) face Trevor Lawrence and No. 3 Clemson (9-1) in the ACC championship game.

Notre Dame coach Brian Kelly doesn't think the pending new gig will distract his defensive coordinator.

"It's not going to disrupt what he does in his preparation for the game and hopefully moving forward," Kelly said. "I'm not concerned (and) I know our players aren't as well."

It isn't coincidence that Notre Dame's four-year run of 43-6 has occurred since Lea joined Kelly's staff as linebackers coach under defensive coordinator Mike Elko. When Elko left for Texas A&M following the 2017 season, Kelly elevated Lea and the Irish defense has improved.

In 2018, Lea's defense with its 4-2-5 alignment was the cornerstone as Notre Dame won its first 12 games to gain a semifinal berth in the Cotton Bowl against Clemson. Lawrence and the Tigers burned the Irish for three second-quarter touchdowns and 327 passing yards total in a 30-3 victory before knocking off Alabama 44-16 for the national championship.

"They were a great team in '18," Clemson coach Dabo Swinney said. "This year, they can get pressure with that front. Their backers are really good, and they've got two of the best players (rover Jeremiah Owusu-Koramoah and safety Kyle Hamilton) that you'll see in college football."

When the teams last met on Nov. 7 in Notre Dame Stadium, Lawrence was sidelined by COVID-19 and his 6-foot-5 freshman replacement, D.J. Uiagalelei, threw for a Notre Dame opponent-record 439 yards.

Notre Dame did limit Clemson star running back Travis Etienne to 28 yards on 18 carries and recovered three fumbles, one returned for a touchdown by Owusu-Koramoah. The Irish got back-to-back sacks by ends Adetokunbo Ogundeji and Daelin Hayes and a fumble recovery by cornerback Nick McCloud in the second overtime to secure the 47-40 win.

"We've got to play better," Kelly said of the rematch. "There are some things we have to do much better in defending the passing game. We have to continue to keep their running game in check."

Kelly is hoping for a performance like Notre Dame put up in the second half against North Carolina's prolific offense. Even after losing Hamilton to a first-half targeting penalty, the Irish held the Tar Heels to zero second-half points in a 31-17 victory.

In all, the defense surrendered 414 yards, including 229 on the ground, to North Carolina – so the yards have been there for the top offenses to take.

Nevertheless, the Irish defense, which has abundant depth everywhere, is ranked among the top 15 teams statistically in third-down conversion defensive percentage (third), fumbles recovered (seventh), rushing defense (eighth), tackles for loss (11th), points allowed (12th) and total defense (14th at 314.5 yards allowed per game).

SCOREBOARD

NFL

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Buffalo	10	3	0	.769	359	321
Miami	8	5	0	.615	330	245
New England	6	7	0	.462	277	279
N.Y. Jets	0	13	0	.000	183	393
South	**W**	**L**	**T**	**Pct**	**PF**	**PA**
Indianapolis	9	4	0	.692	372	300
Tennessee	9	4	0	.692	390	336
Houston	4	9	0	.308	295	359
Jacksonville	1	12	0	.077	261	383
North	**W**	**L**	**T**	**Pct**	**PF**	**PA**
x-Pittsburgh	11	2	0	.846	349	237
Cleveland	9	4	0	.692	348	368
Baltimore	8	5	0	.615	363	273
Cincinnati	2	10	1	.192	244	338
West	**W**	**L**	**T**	**Pct**	**PF**	**PA**
yx-Kansas City	12	1	0	.923	403	281
Las Vegas	7	6	0	.538	350	391
Denver	5	8	0	.385	257	347
L.A. Chargers	4	9	0	.308	297	362

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Washington	6	7	0	.462	287	275
N.Y. Giants	5	8	0	.385	238	291
Philadelphia	4	8	1	.346	277	328
Dallas	4	9	0	.308	298	400
South	**W**	**L**	**T**	**Pct**	**PF**	**PA**
x-New Orleans	10	3	0	.769	368	265
Tampa Bay	8	5	0	.615	370	294
Atlanta	4	9	0	.308	328	322
Carolina	4	9	0	.308	307	332
North	**W**	**L**	**T**	**Pct**	**PF**	**PA**
yx-Green Bay	10	3	0	.769	410	323
Chicago	6	7	0	.462	282	291
Minnesota	6	7	0	.462	333	355
Detroit	5	8	0	.385	310	389
West	**W**	**L**	**T**	**Pct**	**PF**	**PA**
L.A. Rams	9	4	0	.692	325	246
Seattle	9	4	0	.692	393	324
Arizona	7	6	0	.538	358	303
San Francisco	5	8	0	.385	300	311

x-clinched playoff spot
y-clinched division

Thursday's Game
L.A. Rams 24, New England 3

Sunday's Games
Arizona 26, N.Y. Giants 7
Chicago 36, Houston 7
Dallas 30, Cincinnati 7
Denver 32, Carolina 27
Kansas City 33, Miami 27
Tampa Bay 26, Minnesota 14
Tennessee 31, Jacksonville 10
Indianapolis 44, Las Vegas 27
Seattle 40, N.Y. Jets 3
Green Bay 31, Detroit 24
L.A. Chargers 20, Atlanta 17
Philadelphia 24, New Orleans 21
Washington 23, San Francisco 15
Buffalo 26, Pittsburgh 15

Monday's Game
Baltimore 47, Cleveland 42

Thursday, Dec. 17
L.A. Chargers at Las Vegas, 8:20 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 19
Buffalo at Denver, 4:30 p.m.
Carolina at Green Bay, 8:15 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 20
Chicago at Minnesota, 1 p.m.
Detroit at Tennessee, 1 p.m.
Houston at Indianapolis, 1 p.m.
Jacksonville at Baltimore, 1 p.m.
New England at Miami, 1 p.m.
San Francisco at Dallas, 1 p.m.
Seattle at Washington, 1 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Atlanta, 1 p.m.
N.Y. Jets at L.A. Rams, 4:05 p.m.
Philadelphia at Arizona, 4:05 p.m.
Kansas City at New Orleans, 4:25 p.m.
Cleveland at N.Y. Giants, 8:20 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 21
Pittsburgh at Cincinnati, 8:15 p.m.

PISTONS

From page B1

past five seasons.

If Griffin is healthy, he too could become the topic of trade speculation. He said he took the team's recent direction in stride.

"It has been a lot of changes, but I think I was sort of prepared for that," Griffin said. "It sounded like that's what was going to happen, and I like the pieces that we got."

Youngsters

One of Detroit's few holdovers is Doumbouya, the team's first-round draft pick last year. He turns 20 on Dec. 23, the day the Pistons are scheduled to open their season at Minnesota. Doumbouya averaged 6.4 points in 38 games as a rookie.

The 6-foot-5 Hayes has played in France and Germany and gives Detroit an intriguing point guard prospect. Stewart averaged 17 points last season as a freshman at Washington, and Bey averaged 16.1 points as a sophomore at Villanova.

Size

With Drummond gone, Detroit has a lot of rebounding to replace, but the additions of Plumlee and Okafor gave the Pistons some size. Weaver clearly respects Detroit's previous championship winners from 1989, 1990 and 2004 – and how those teams were built.

"I've never seen a team win a championship without controlling the backboard," Weaver said. "I welcome all the center jokes, because I do love centers, and last time I checked, the two teams here with the Pistons that were good, they had a bunch of bigs."

Productive

Rose, another big name with a troubling injury history, played 50 games for the Pistons last season. When he was on the court, he was very good at times, averaging 18.1 points and 26 minutes.

Stepping up

The 26-year-old Grant arrives after averaging 12 points for Denver last season. He played big minutes during the Nuggets' run to the Western Conference finals.

"A guy that comes in, he works hard, he's professional, he's a great teammate," Weaver said. "All the things we embody."

LIONS

From page B1

commentator for Fox NFL broadcasts, while simultaneously handling the same role for Detroit's preseason games the past seven years.

He'll leave that behind for this new position, which is designed to continue after the general manager and coach positions have been filled, even though the parameters of his role have yet to be defined, according to Wood.

"For me, once this is all in place, think of me as a servant," Spielman said. "Whatever is needed to be done and however I can help the team in any way, that's my job, and I am there just to serve. That's my goal and that's what I intend to do."

Since taking over as Lions president and CEO in 2015, Wood has gotten to know Spielman well and said he's long envisioned a role in the organization for the former linebacker, but it wasn't until after the decision was made to fire general manager Bob Quinn and coach Matt Patricia that the ball got rolling on developing an official relationship.

Wood reached out to Spielman shortly after the firings, part of a general feeling-out process. Soon after, Ford Hamp was looped in on the calls and she was the one who made the final pitch that got Spielman to take the plunge.

And while Tuesday's conversation was steered away from specific candidates for the team's two openings, Spielman explained his general vision for what success would look like, placing an emphasis on communication, culture and unity, from the top down.

In addition to hiring Spielman, the Lions also announced the Fritz Pollard Alliance Foundation executive director Rod Graves, Rock Ventures vice president of business development and former Michigan State athletic director Mark Hollis and Lions Hall of Fame running back Barry Sanders will serve as advisors for the team's search for a GM and coach.

BIG TEN

From page B1

impressive doing it to leave no doubt they belong in the playoff.

"It's pretty important," he said. "I mean we try not to think about it as much, but what it comes down to is that every other (contending) school has more games than us. Every game that we have is looked at under a microscope. We try and just put the best game out there on film and really dominate and execute every play because that's what they're watching."

Northwestern coach Pat Fitzgerald is a believer in the Buckeyes, no matter how many games they played. "If I had a vote," he said, "I'd vote them No. 2. I think they're a complete football team, all three phases."

Ohio State coach Ryan Day insisted he just wants to win the game – he doesn't care by how many points or how it looks to others. He said he hates the idea that style points matter.

"It goes against everything we've been brought up with," Day said. "I don't think there's any other sport in the world where anything other than winning matters. So it's very unique. If you win by one point every week in the NFL, you'd win the Super Bowl.

"But college football is different, and this year it's even more strange."

BULLS

From page B1

the regular season at home against Atlanta on Dec. 23.

Time up?

Zach LaVine is coming off his best season, averaging a career-high 25.5 points in his sixth year in the NBA and third in Chicago.

But hasn't played in an All-Star game or for a postseason team, two glaring omissions on his resume. He could also be an attractive trade target.

Making a mark

One big item on Donovan's to-do list is to get more out of Lauri Markkanen. His third season was a bit of a dud.

The versatile, sweet-shooting 7-footer from Finland missed 15 games with a pelvic injury and saw his scoring and rebounding drop in his third season. He went from averaging 18.7 points and 9 rebounds in 2018-19 season to 14.7 and 6.3 last year.

On the ball

Coby White opens his second season as the primary ballhandler.

The 6-foot-4 guard from North Carolina showed promise as a rookie, averaging 13.2 points in a reserve role, and was particularly good down the stretch. He averaged 26.1 points over the final nine games.

PRIME TIME TV

WEDNESDAY EVENING DEC. 16

	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30
ABC (7)(13)(41)(57)	Wheel of Fortune	The Great Christmas Light Fight Egg Harbor Township, N.J.; Lehi, Utah. (N)				For Life "Collars for Dollars" (N)	
CBS (2)(3)(22)	Ent. Tonight	The Amazing Race ((F)) (N)		SEAL Team "Shock-wave" (N)		S.W.A.T. "Hopeless Sinner" (N) CC	
NBC (5)(8)(16)	Ac. Holly-wood	Christmas Spectacu-lar-Rockettes		Saturday Night Live Popular Christmas-themed sketches. CC			
FOX (17)(22)(28)(32)	Modern Family	The Masked Singer "Road to the Finals"		The Masked Singer ((F)) (N)		Fox 17 News at 10:00PM (N) CC	
PBS (34)	Outdoor Elements	Nature Cross-species relationships.		NOVA "Einstein's Quantum Riddle"		NOVA "Apollo's Daring Mission"	
CW (25)	Big Bang Theory	Devils Massimo defeats Dominic.		Penn & Teller: Fool Us CC		News	Seinfeld CC
MNT (50)	Family Feud	Dateline "The Threat" CC		Dateline "Secrets on the Snake River"		Dateline An ordinary night ends in murder.	
WCIU (26)	Mike & Molly	Devils Massimo defeats Dominic.		Penn & Teller: Fool Us CC		King of Queens	King of Queens
WHME (46)	:00 Heart-land	Heartland "A Fine Balance"		Highway to Heaven CC		Nightly News	
WGN (9)	News	black-ish CC	black-ish	Last Man Standing	Last Man Standing	WGN News at Nine (N) (L) CC	
A&E	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam	Court Cam (N)	Court Cam (N)	:01 Rescue Cam	:32 Rescue Cam
AMC	6:00 Scrooged	★★★ National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation ('89) Chevy Chase. CC				National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation	
Animal	North-	North Woods Law: Uncuffed (N)				North Woods Law	
BET	Holiday	Payne	As. Living	Tyler Perry's Sistas		Games People Play	
Big Ten	College Basketball			College Basketball			
Bravo	House-wives/OC	Housewives/OC		Housewives/OC		Real Housewives of Salt Lake City	
Cartoon	Teen	Gumball	Gumball	Burgers	Burgers	American	American
Cinemax	Birth of Dragon	★★★ Blinded by the Light ('19) Viveik Kalra, Hayley Atwell. (P). CC				★ Rock the Kasbah ('15) CC	
CMT	Last Man	Mom	Mom	Mom	Mom	Mom	Mom
CNBC	S. Smith	Shark Tank		Shark Tank		Shark Tank	
CNN	OutFront	Anderson Cooper		Cuomo Prime Time		CNN Tonight	
Comedy	South Pk	South Pk	South Pk	South Pk	South Pk	South Pk	South Pk
Discovery	Expedi-tion X	Josh Gates Tonight "Merry Josh-mas"		Expedition X "Ameri-ca's Lake Monster"		:09 Expedition Un-known CC	
Disney	Raven	Stuck in the Middle		Liv-Mad.	Cali Style	Big City	Big City
DIY	Holmes	Holmes Inspection		Holmes & Holmes		Holmes & Holmes	
E!	Chrisley	Chrisley	Chrisley	Chrisley	Chrisley	Dating	Dating
ESPN	College Basketball			College Basketball Duke at Notre Dame. (N)			
ESPN2	College Basketball Teams TBA.			College Basketball TCU at Oklahoma State.			
ESPNC	Football	College Football From Nov. 30, 1991.				College Football	
Food	Grocery	Guy's Games		Guy's Games		Guy's Games	
Fox News	The Story	Tucker Carlson		Hannity (N) CC		The Ingraham Angle	
Fox Sports	MSHOF	NFL Football Green Bay Packers at Detroit Lions.					Spartans
Freefrm	6:25 ★★ The Santa Clause 2 ('02) Tim Allen. CC			8:55 ★ The Santa Clause 3: The Escape Clause ('06) Tim Allen. CC			
FX	Maze Runner	★★ The Equalizer 2 ('18, Action) Denzel Washington, Pedro Pascal, Ashton Sanders. CC					The Revenant
Golf	:00 College Golf Showcase (N)			GOLF Films CC		GOLF	GOLF
Hallmark	Hanukkah!	Christmas She Wrote ('20, Romance) Danica McKellar, Dylan Neal. CC				The Christmas Cottage ('17) CC	
HBO	:25 ★★ Underwater ('20) Kristen Stewart. CC			The Art of Political Murder ('19) (P). (Subtitled-English)			Industry CC
History	Forged	Forged in Fire		Forged in Fire (N)		:03 Forged in Fire	
HGTV	Home	Home Town (N)		Home Town (N)		Hunters	Hunt Intl
Learning	My 600-	My 600-Lb. Life		My 600-Lb. Life		My 600-Lb. Life	
Lifetime	Candy Cane	Twinkle All the Way ('19, Romance) Ryan McPartlin, Sarah Drew. CC				:03 My Christmas Inn ('18) CC	
MSNBC	ReidOut	All In With		Rachel Maddow		The Last Word	
MTV	Delicious.	The Challenge (N) CC			Delicious.	Delicious.	Ridic.
NBCSCH	Lucas Oil	White Sox Rewind From Sept. 17, 2020. (N)					Short List
NFL	NFL Total	NFL Football Teams TBA. (Taped) CC					
Nick	SpongeBob Movie			Sheldon	Sheldon	Friends	Friends
NGEO	Trafficked	Trafficked-van Zeller		Trafficked-van Zeller		Narco Wars (N)	
Oxygen	Dateline: Secrets	Cold Justice (N) CC		Cold Justice (N) CC		Dateline: Secrets Uncovered CC	
Parmt	:00 ★★ Four Brothers			:15 ★★★ The Italian Job ('03) CC			
Showtime	6:45 ★★★ The Blues Brothers ('80) John Belushi. CC			Belushi ('20) John Landis. The life and career of actor and comedian John Belushi.			
Starz	:14 ★ The Intruder ('19, Suspense) Michael Ealy. CC			★★ Bad Boys for Life ('20, Action) Will Smith, Martin Lawrence. CC			
STZENC	:17 ★★ Escape Room ('19, Horror) Taylor Russell. CC			★★ Wayne's World ('92) Mike Myers, Dana Carvey. CC			Behind Enemy
SyFy	6:30 ★★★ The Goonies ('85, Children's) Sean Astin. CC			★★ The Last Witch Hunter ('15, Fantasy) Vin Diesel, Elijah Wood. CC			
TBS	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Full Frontal
TCM	Where Eagles	★★★★ Vertigo ('58, Suspense) James Stewart, Kim Novak. CC				:15 ★★★ Marnie ('64) CC	
TMC	★★ Hav Plenty	★★★ Do the Right Thing ('89, Drama) Danny Aiello, Ossie Davis. CC				★★★ Inside Man ('06) CC	
TNT	Equalizer	All Elite Wrestling: Dynamite (N) CC				The Equalizer	
Travel	Monsters	Loch Ness Monster: New Evidence CC				True Paranormal	
TV Land	Andy G.	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond
USA	:00 NCIS	WWE NXT (N) (L) CC				:08 ★★ San An-dreas ('15, Action)	
VH1	Martin	Kevin Hart		★★ Step Brothers ('08) Will Ferrell.			
WGN-A	Last Man Standing	NewsNation (N) (L) CC		NewsNation (N) (L) CC		NewsNation (N) (L) CC	

Long-haul COVID leaves sufferers struggling for months

DEAR DOCTORS: Is there more than one kind of COVID-19? I heard on the news about something they're calling "long COVID," and it sounds like a whole different kind of disease. How do you get it? Can it be cured?

DEAR READER: It's true that we're hearing a lot about long COVID these days. Despite being referred to by a different name than COVID-19, it's not a separate illness. Rather, long COVID is a term used to describe the lingering symptoms that can affect some people who have survived COVID-19. People who are experiencing long COVID are sometimes referred to as "COVID long-haulers."

Elizabeth Ko & Eve Glazier
Ask the Doctors

As we know all too well by now, COVID-19 is the name of the illness that can arise when someone becomes infected with the novel coronavirus. Cases of COVID-19 run the gamut from mild to moderate to severe to fatal. One of the perils of the disease is that it's impossible to predict how any one person will react to the infection. Even a moderate case of COVID-19 can be challenging, with symptoms that include high fever, body aches, congestion, difficulty breathing, dizziness, profound fatigue and altered mental status. For many people with moderate to severe COVID-19, the disease runs its course in a month or more. However, tens of thousands of survivors experience long COVID, or long-haul COVID, and some symptoms persist.

For these COVID survivors, recovery is long and rocky, marked by repeated setbacks. Even when the worst of the disease has run its course, other symptoms affect patients for many months. These include persistent fatigue, exhaustion, headache, muscle aches, muscle spasms, erratic heartbeat, depression, low blood pressure after exertion and memory fog. Some patients experience increased blood clotting, which can lead to organ damage.

A recent study published in the Journal of the American Medical Association followed the recovery of 145 patients in their 50s who had experienced moderate to severe COVID-19 symptoms. Researchers found that 87 percent were left with labored breathing and persistent fatigue for months after the initial disease. Another troubling aspect of long COVID is emerging evidence that it can affect the youngest survivors. About 10 percent of the more than 11 million coronavirus infections reported in the U.S. thus far have occurred in children, and many experience long-lasting symptoms.

It's still not clear why some people recover completely from COVID-19, while for others symptoms persist for months. One theory is that, even after someone recovers from the initial disease, fragments of the genetic code of the coronavirus may continue to circulate throughout the body. Although these fragments don't cause full-on disease, they may continue to trigger an immune system response.

At this time, as with COVID-19, there is no single cure for long COVID. Treatment focuses on managing symptoms. However, it has been recognized as a serious problem. Researchers are now launching studies to discover the biological and immunological causes of long-haul COVID. The hope is to identify any biomarkers that make people susceptible to the syndrome and point to successful treatments.

Eve Glazier, M.D., MBA, is an internist and associate professor of medicine at UCLA Health. Elizabeth Ko, M.D., is an internist and assistant professor of medicine at UCLA Health. Send your questions to askthedoctors@mednet.ucla.edu. Owing to the volume of mail, personal replies cannot be provided.

Husband's a no-show when it comes to her health care

DEAR CAROLYN: I'm married for 40 years and I've had health issues, most happening in the past five years.

My husband is completely detached and uninterested. He never follows up with test results, and forgets appointments he promised to come with me to, some pretty serious – I had lung cancer three years ago. He's never asked me, "So when's your next CAT scan?" or, if he knows I went for a scan, never follows up.

Carolyn Hax

He had one heart issue six years ago and I was by his side the entire time.

Now that we're in our 60s and things are starting to happen healthwise, I need someone by my side who will take care of me, and I don't see that ever happening. I'm not sure what to do. Even when I decide to just deal with everything alone, it's just so hurtful and I end up fighting with him about it.

Whenever I've asked him why he thinks he's like that, he just says, "I don't know." When I say, "Well, the next time you get sick, I will not be there for you," he says, "I don't blame you."

How is that a marriage, especially approaching the last years of our lives? – S.

DEAR S.: The most forgiving explanation I can think of is that he's terrified of illness in general and of losing you in particular, and just freezes.

The most useful explanation I can think of is that he's bad at this, and would be bad at it with anybody, so it's not as personal as it feels.

His "I don't blame you" says he knows he's wrong. It seems he's not deliberately hurting you so much as completely shutting down. (So maybe rethink your tit-for-tat.)

If any of this helps you fathom his detachment, then feel free to make it yours. Or bring the whole question to (tele-)therapy, with him or solo – because this appears beyond fixing, which leaves you with accepting.

And accepting means finding other rewards and other value in your marriage besides medical support.

Does that seem narrowly defined? I did it on purpose. You can set the scope of the problem as wide as you want:

- Widest: He doesn't care.
- Narrower: He is not a caregiver.
- Narrowest: He hears "doctor" and bolts like a roach in daylight.

Which one fits, and which can you live with?

I also urge you to recast "dealing with everything alone" as "dealing *without him*" – which is far less dire.

It's so unfortunate and I understand your despair. None of my suggestions for working around him is meant to deny how he's failed you. But once you've faced your disappointment, dwelling on it – and continuing to expect him to play a role he has repeatedly proven he can't play – only prolongs your suffering and sets you both up to fail.

Accepting you can't count on him frees you to plan accordingly, to count on others. Take your cue from the millions of over-65s who live alone and/or don't have caregiver-relatives (for whatever reason), and develop a personal support system.

Talk to friends about backstopping each other; meet with a geriatric care manager; put in a call to a helpful person from your cancer-care team. Check your insurance. Call your local council on aging. Call it Plan B.

Email Carolyn Hax at tellme@washpost.com, follow her on Facebook at www.facebook.com/carolyn.hax or chat with her online at noon each Friday at www.washingtonpost.com.

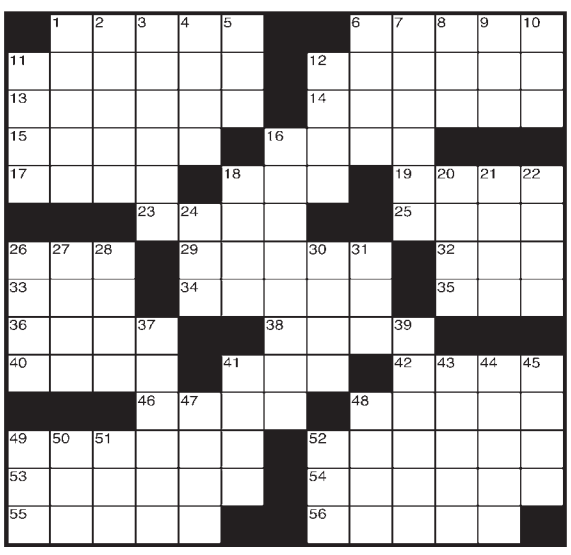
CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 Raw-fish delicacy
6 Made bales
11 Wheel or bottle
12 Japanese theater
13 Traffic no-no's (hyph.)
14 Corridors
15 Becomes fatigued
16 Pita sandwich
17 "Orinoco Flow" singer
18 Not hers
19 Zest
23 Ukraine capital
25 Cordon —
26 Narcissus' flaw
29 Family member
32 Period
33 Hit heavy seas
34 Fad
35 Musical scale note
36 Sprints
38 Become conscious
40 "What — can I say?"
41 Shake up
42 Comic-book heroes (hyph.)
46 Wharf
48 Student's paper
49 Live in
52 Sedimentary rocks
53 White water
54 Flair
55 Pipe unclogger
56 Hero's horse

DOWN
1 Wedding-dress fabric
2 Loan-sharking
3 Unbroken string
4 Farm flappers
5 1040 agcy.
6 Bristle
7 Soak up
8 "The King and I" name
9 Make ends meet
10 Put down, slangily
11 Charmingly attractive
12 Boyle and Kyser
16 Freebie
18 Whodunit suspect
20 Seine aits
21 Despot who fiddled
22 Like some controls
24 Business abbr.
26 Bronte governess
27 France, long ago
28 Pays for
30 Movie mogul
31 Cartoon mice — and Meek
37 Evening-gown glitter
39 Breathe out
41 Toronto Blue —
43 Free-for-all
44 Correct a text
45 Fit together
47 Victorian coiffure
48 The one over there
49 Law (abbr.)
50 Auto
51 Audit ace
52 Ave. crossers

Answer to Previous Puzzle

K	O	I		S	R	I			I	D	E	S
L	P	N		T	E	R	I		R	I	L	E
E	A	T		R	E	A	M		I	N	I	T
E	L	O	P	E	D		P	A	S	T	A	S
			O	W	S		I	R	E			
R	A	C	E	S		R	O	A	S	T	S	
A	H	E	M		S	T	U	B		A	P	T
M	A	D		P	I	E	S		T	R	I	O
	B	E	V	I	E	S		N	U	T	T	Y
			A	P	R		B	I	B			
S	H	I	N	E	R		A	C	E	T	I	C
H	O	O	D		A	P	S	E		O	B	I
E	S	T	A		S	A	I	L		G	E	N
S	E	A	L			H	E	Y		A	X	E



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JUMBLE

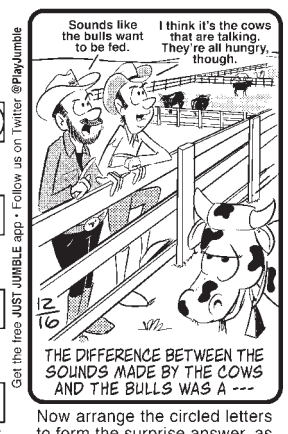
Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

IFSTH

NUMDO

PSOOEP

TMVIEO


Sounds like the bulls want to be fed.
I think it's the cows that are talking. They're all hungry, though.
THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE SOUNDS MADE BY THE COWS AND THE BULLS WAS A ---

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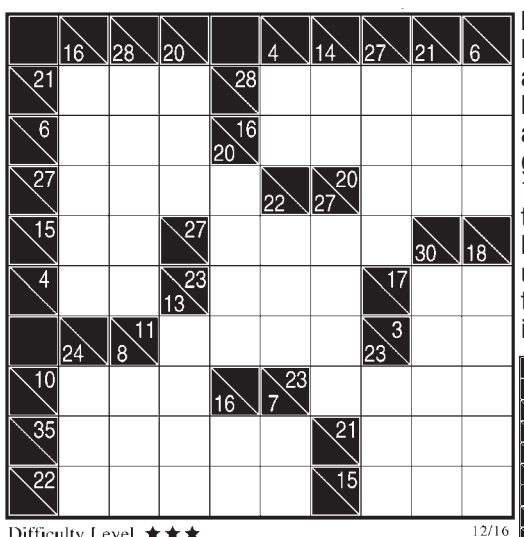
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print your answer here: " " " "

(Answers tomorrow)

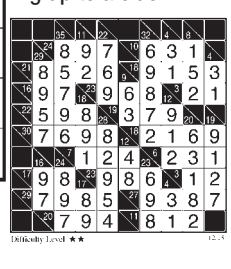
Yesterday's Jumbles: FAVOR BRIBE NIMBLE SHADOW
Answer: She was going to take a sign language class and decided to read about it — BEFOREHAND

KAKURO



Difficulty Level ★★★ 12/16

How to play: Numbers above the slash are across clues; numbers below the slash are down clues. The goal is to enter digits 1-9 in the white cells to add up to the number clues. You cannot use any digit more than once when adding up to a clue.



BRIDGE

In a script for "Northern Exposure," Henry Bromel wrote, "They say dreams are the windows of the soul – take a peek, and you can see the inner workings, the nuts and bolts."

Anyone who has played at Bridge Base Online with or against the robots has probably wondered if they are allowed to see their partner's hand when they are on defense. It had crossed my mind after being on the losing end of a couple of razzle-dazzle defenses. But not after this deal. What was the result in one no-trump after the West robot led the heart three?

My one-no-trump opening bid showed a good 11 to 14 points. I am a big fan of the weak no-trump, believing its pluses vastly outweigh the minuses.

Trick one went heart three, two, five, six! If I could have peeked, I would have led the diamond jack! But after a low diamond to the nine, queen and king, the East robot returned the club three. West took that trick and strangely led the diamond 10. I won with my ace and played the heart 10. West, misled by partner's play at trick one, put up the king. East won with the ace and led back the diamond eight. I won with my jack, cashed the diamond seven, played a heart to dummy's nine and took the heart queen, club ace and club queen. Then, at trick 12, I played a spade to the king.

Have you been keeping track? That was nine tricks! I asked partner why she had made such a cautious pass!

What is the winning defense against one no-trump? To start, any lead but the heart king, seven or three!

North 12-16-20
♠ K 7 4 2
♥ Q 9 4 2
♦ Q 5 2
♣ 10 6

West
♠ A J 8 3
♥ K J 7 3
♦ 10 9
♣ K 9 5

East
♠ Q 6
♥ A 5
♦ K 8 6 3
♣ J 8 4 3 2

South
♠ 10 9 5
♥ 10 8 6
♦ A J 7 4
♣ A Q 7

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: Both

South	West	North	East
1NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♥ 3

SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

3	9		6	4	7			
2	1		5				7	
	4	7		2			3	
5					2			
		9		3		2		
			1					3
	8			6		3	5	
	6				5		8	9
			8	7	4		6	2

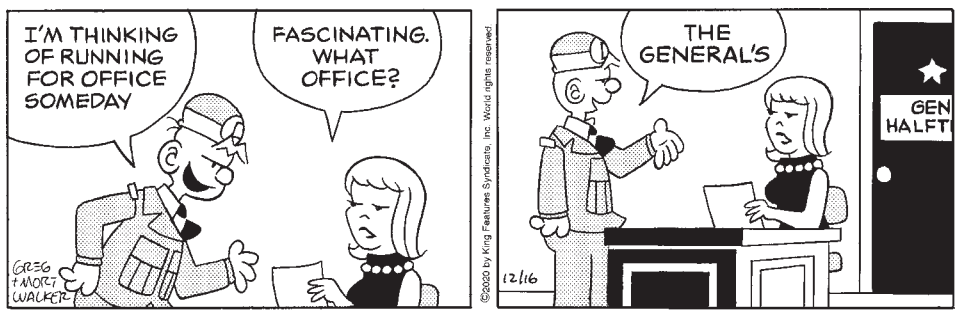
12/16 © 2020 Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication for UFS

How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

8	7	6	3	1	2	9	4	5
9	1	4	8	6	5	7	2	3
2	3	5	9	7	4	8	1	6
4	8	7	1	9	3	5	6	2
5	6	9	4	2	8	3	7	1
1	2	3	7	5	6	4	9	8
6	4	1	5	3	7	2	8	9
3	9	8	2	4	1	6	5	7
7	5	2	6	8	9	1	3	4

BEETLE BAILEY

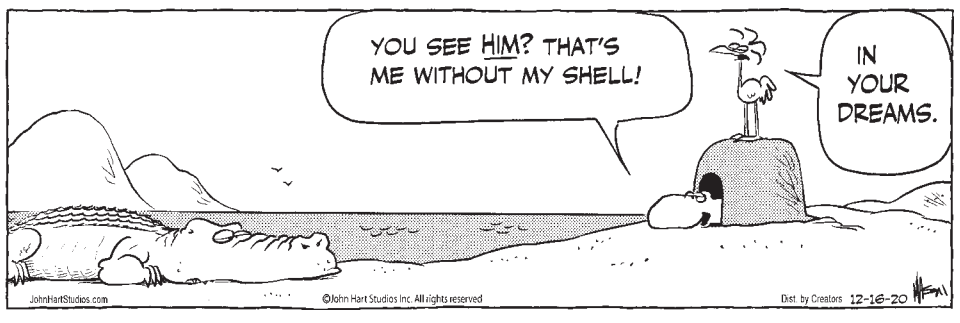


BLONDIE

SURPRISE! HERE'S YOUR CHRISTMAS BONUS!
REALLY?
A CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT THAT LOOKS LIKE YOU?
AMAZING, ISN'T IT? YOU'RE WELCOME
IN A WEIRD WAY, IT'S KINDA CUTE
LET'S TURN IT AROUND! IT'S GIVING ME THE CREEPS!
12-16

HI & LOIS

BC


YOU SEE HIM? THAT'S ME WITHOUT MY SHELL!
IN YOUR DREAMS.
JohnHartStudios.com
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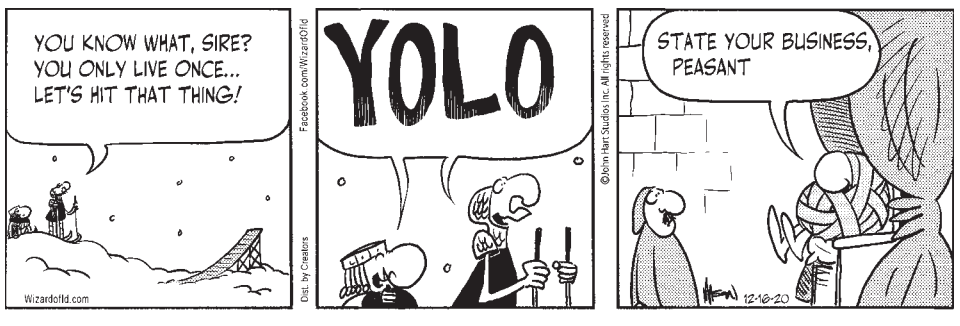
WIZARD OF ID



DILBERT

TODAY IS YOUR LAST DAY WITH THE COMPANY, TED. SO I NEED YOUR COMPANY LAPTOP BACK.
OR ELSE WHAT? YOU'LL FIRE ME TWICE?
LET'S SAY YOU'RE NOT OFFICIALLY FIRED UNTIL YOU RETURN THE LAPTOP.
AND IF I DON'T BRING IT BACK, WILL I NEVER BE FIRED?
UM. . .
DILBERT.COM @SCOTTADAMSSAYS
12-16-20 2020 Scott Adams, Inc./Dist. by Andrews McMeel

GARFIELD

Dear Santa, I would like a personal chef for Christmas.
TIC TIC TIC
An Italian, who can make a killer lasagna.
TIC TIC TIC TIC
HEY, IF YOU DON'T ASK, YOU WON'T GET!
© 2020 PAWS, INC. All Rights Reserved.
Distributed by Andrews McMeel Syndication
JIM DAVIS 12-16

FORT KNOX

WHAT DO YOU DO AS THE SENIOR CENTER'S SANTA?
LET SENIORS SIT ON MY LAP AND TELL ME WHAT THEY WANT.
WHAT DO THEY USUALLY ASK FOR?
NEW HIPS.
+1
12/16
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PICKLES

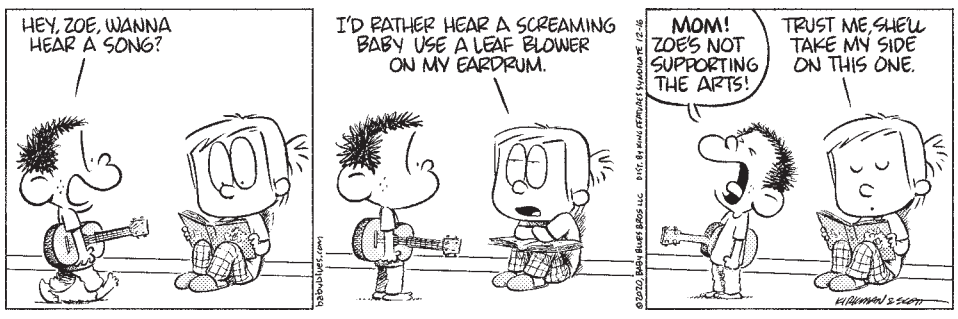
GRAMPA, WHY IS YOUR CHRISTMAS TREE UPSIDE DOWN?
12/16
WELL, WE DID IT TO SYMBOLIZE THE CRAZY TOPSY-TURVY YEAR THIS HAS BEEN.
CRASH!
YEAH. THAT KIND OF SAYS IT ALL.
© 2020 Brian Crane. dist. by Washington Post Writers Group
pricklycity.com

FAMILY CIRCUS

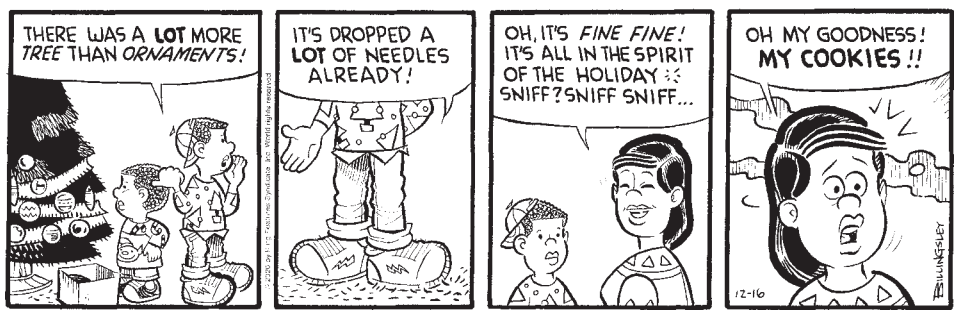
THE FAMILY CIRCUS
By Bil Keane
12-16
©2020 Bil Keane, Inc.
Dist. by King Features Synd.
www.familycircus.com
Bil and JEFF KEANE
"Looks like Joan and Bud... or Jean and Burl... or is that Jim and Bill?"

DENNIS THE MENACE

BABY BLUES


HEY, ZOE, WANNA HEAR A SONG?
I'D RATHER HEAR A SCREAMING BABY USE A LEAF BLOWER ON MY EARDRUM.
MOM! ZOE'S NOT SUPPORTING THE ARTS!
TRUST ME, SHE'LL TAKE MY SIDE ON THIS ONE.
babyblues.com
Dist. by King Features Syndicate 12-16

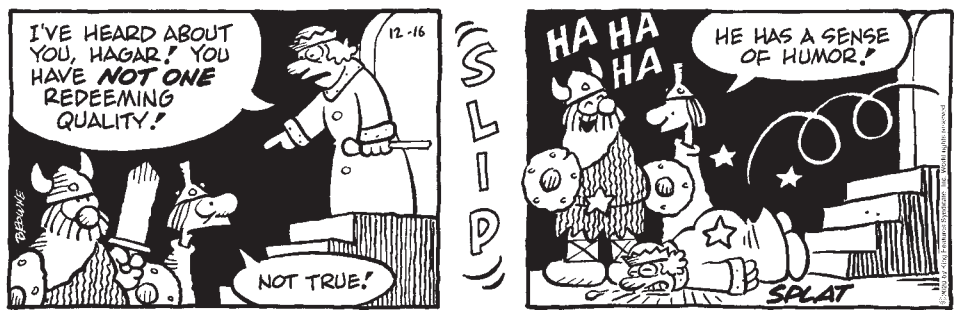
CURTIS


THERE WAS A LOT MORE TREE THAN ORNAMENTS!
IT'S DROPPED A LOT OF NEEDLES ALREADY!
OH, IT'S FINE FINE! IT'S ALL IN THE SPIRIT OF THE HOLIDAY SNIFF? SNIFF SNIFF...
OH MY GOODNESS! MY COOKIES!!
12-16

ZITS

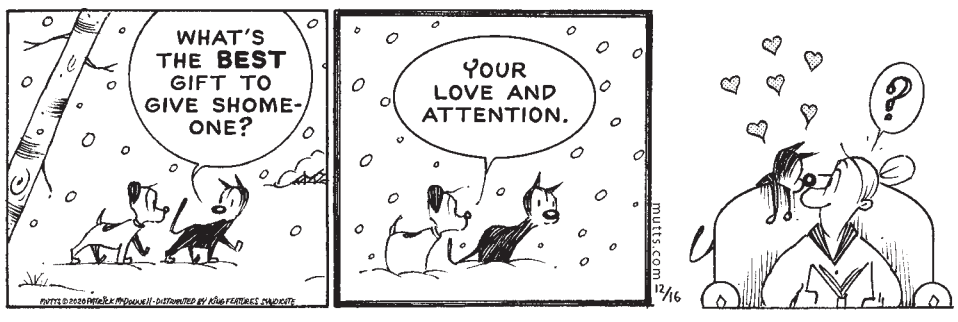
WALT, WE NEED TO GET JEREMY A NEW MATTRESS.
HIS OLD ONE HAS TO BE AFFECTING HIS SLEEP PATTERNS.
I SAW THE KID DOZE OFF ON A ROLLER COASTER ONCE.
YES, BUT STILL...
12-16
SCOTT ANKERMAN BORGMAN
zitscomics.com

HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

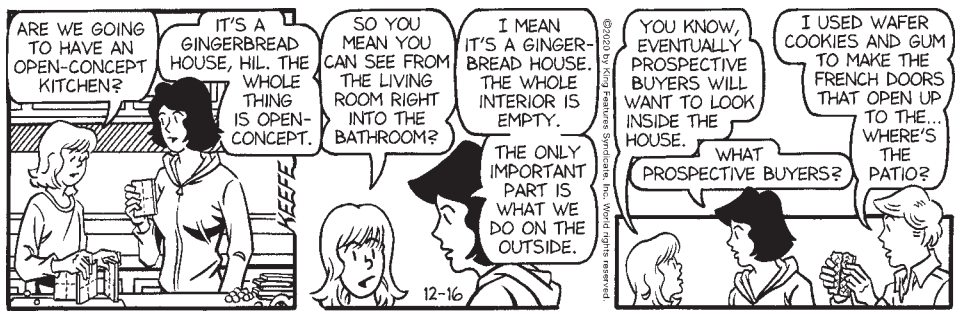


MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

MUTTS



SALLY FORTH


ARE WE GOING TO HAVE AN OPEN-CONCEPT KITCHEN?
IT'S A GINGERBREAD HOUSE, HIL. THE WHOLE THING IS OPEN-CONCEPT.
SO YOU MEAN YOU CAN SEE FROM THE LIVING ROOM RIGHT INTO THE BATHROOM?
I MEAN IT'S A GINGERBREAD HOUSE. THE WHOLE INTERIOR IS EMPTY.
THE ONLY IMPORTANT PART IS WHAT WE DO ON THE OUTSIDE.
12-16
KEEFE
YOU KNOW, EVENTUALLY PROSPECTIVE BUYERS WILL WANT TO LOOK INSIDE THE HOUSE.
WHAT PROSPECTIVE BUYERS?
I USED WAFER COOKIES AND GUM TO MAKE THE FRENCH DOORS THAT OPEN UP TO THE... WHERE'S THE PATIO?

Be a history explorer

The entire archive of The Herald-Palladium and its forerunner newspapers, dating back more than 150 years, is now available online in a text-searchable format

Use the archive to do serious genealogical research or simply to have fun reading about your ancestors.
Find old clippings about your birth or high school graduation.
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The Herald-Palladium

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It's easy to get started:

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- Click on the "Archives" tab in the top menu, and choose "Search Newspapers.com"
- Click on the "Get Archive Access" link to sign up

Look for handy tutorials to help you learn how to use the site effectively

Only $4.95 for 1 month's access or $19.95 for 6 months' access.

The Herald-Palladium CLASSIFIEDS

Classified Desk: 1-855-317-4292
Hours: Monday - Friday 8am-4pm EST
Saturday & Sunday 8am-11am EST

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Includes air conditioning.

1/2 basement with washer and dryer

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River Valley School District
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Deadline: Until filled

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GENERAL HELP

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Home every night.
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Or Scott at
(269)208-9208

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Watch For Our Open House Ads In The Classifieds!

CITY OF BENTON HARBOR
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

In compliance with the Open Meetings Act – Public Act No. 267 of 1976, as amended.

Please be advised that a public hearing of the Benton Harbor Zoning Board of Appeals will be held in the City of Benton Harbor, Lula Lee Commission Chambers located at 200 E. Wall Street, Benton Harbor, Michigan on January 4, 2021, immediately following the City Commission meeting at 7:00 p.m. to consider the following:

Tackle Haven located at 741 Riverview Dr., Benton Harbor, Michigan 49022 (parcel # 11-54-0024-0061-09-2) is requesting a variation to extend the property lot line from the north of Gray St. and east of the property driveway for more storage space. The existing building is 15,400 square feet and currently serves as boat storage on the property.

In the event that Public Act 228 of 2020 is extended due to COVID-19, the public hearing / meeting will be conducted virtually. Instructions on how to participate will be posted on the City of Benton Harbor's website, www.bhcity.us.

Members of the public are invited to participate at the public hearing and/or forward comments by mail or email to:
City Clerk Kimberly Thompson
200 E. Wall Street
Benton Harbor, MI 49022.
kthompson@cityofbentonharbormi.gov
Written comments must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on Monday, January 4, 2021.

The application and documents for this request may be viewed in the City Clerk's Office, 200 E. Wall Street, Benton Harbor, Michigan, 49022 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The City of Benton Harbor does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission or access to public meetings. Auxiliary aids or services will be made available for assistance of individuals with speech, vision, hearing or other impairments if the City of Benton Harbor is provided with notice not less than one week (7) days prior to the meeting time. Individuals desiring such assistance should contact the City Clerk at 269-927-8400 Ext.8410.

All interested parties are urged to attend.

Darlene Jones, Chief Code Enforcement Officer
December 14, 2020

The Herald-Palladium

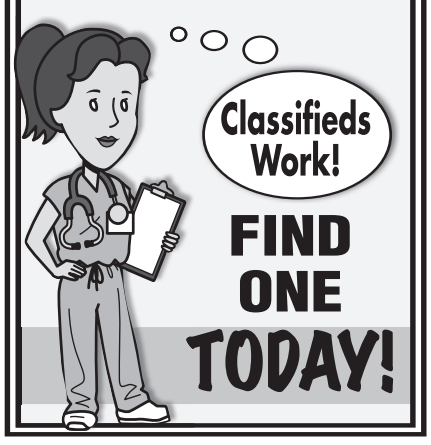
The Herald Palladium is looking for a reliable person to drive a company owned, 16 foot truck, to deliver newspapers from our local print site to The Grand Haven Tribune in Grand Haven, MI. The position is not responsible for the delivery of individual newspapers to subscribers. Drops are made at two post office locations, as well as, the local newspaper office. Experience operating an electric lift is desired.

This is a third shift position, approximately 3-7am, Tuesday-Saturday.
Must have valid driver's license and have a clean MVR.

Job Type: Part-time
Salary: $11.50 to $12.00/hour

To Apply: Contact Bruce
btheisen@heraldpalladium.com
269-429-2400 ext. 553

CAREERS ARE MADE IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!



FIND ONE TODAY!

HOROSCOPE

By EUGENIA LAST

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16
Make health and well-being your priorities this year. It's time to let go of old habits and people who lead you astray. Look to the future with hope, enthusiasm and the desire to be and do your very best. Added discipline will encourage greater stability and security.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Be careful when dealing with joint ventures or shared expenses. Keeping things equal will help you avoid tension and get things done on time. Keep a reasonable schedule.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Keep busy and keep the peace. Channel your energy into something concrete. If you are smart and goal-oriented, success will come your way. You must work hard to be reasonable.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Keep an open mind and listen to what others say, but don't let anyone meddle in your affairs. Work hard to uphold your beliefs and help a cause that matters to you.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Look at your objective and map out a realistic, affordable plan. Don't let a last-minute change lead to uncertainty. Consider what's best for you and head in that direction.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) What you want to do and what you are supposed to do will be in conflict. Stop stressing out and start working hard. Get your responsibilities out of the way early. Romance is favored.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) If you focus on success, you will be happy with the results. Invest more time, effort and money in learning, honing your skills and making your dreams come true. Embrace change.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Talk matters through to get good results. A partnership looks promising, but it will require honesty from the start. Fess up to anything that has the potential to become a problem.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) A financial change will take you by surprise. Be wary of anyone asking personal questions or wanting access to sensitive information. A partnership will take an exciting turn.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) You will thrive in settings that require physical endurance and competition. Be honest with yourself regarding what you can do, and plan your strategy to fit your ability. Don't worry about others' actions.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Refuse to let personal problems drag you down. Your success will depend on how much you are willing to put in to reach your goal. Strive for perfection and embrace new possibilities.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Listen to your heart, fulfill your dreams and let go of what is no longer working for you. Problems at home will leave you feeling torn between what you want and how to go about getting your way.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Stop laboring over what's holding you back, put your ducks in a row and make a move. You know what's best for you and what you have to do to reach your objective. More initiative may be required.

BUSINESS & SERVICE GUIDE

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No telephone calls please! We will not reveal the name of the box holder.
(A) Reply with your sealed letter Addressed as follows:

Box (# that appears in ad)
c/o the Herald-Palladium
P.O. Box 128
St. Joseph, MI
49085-0128

If you wish to reply to a box number and NOT have your letter sent to certain firms, then: B) attach a note listing which firms are NOT to receive your letter; and (C) send every thing in ANOTHER E N V E L O P E addressed as follows:

The Herald-Palladium
Classified Department
P.O. Box 128
St. Joseph, MI
49085-0128

If the advertiser is among the names you don't want to contact, we will destroy your sealed letter.

E-Mail Responses
You may also reply to ads with Herald-Palladium box numbers by e-mail. Do not attach your resume rather type it or copy & paste it directly into your e-mail program. Send your e-mail to: jobs@heraldpalladium.com

If you wish to reply to a box number and NOT have your letter sent to certain firms, then begin your e-mail with any company(s) where you do not wish to apply. Then include the Herald-Palladium box address as shown above.

Employment Advertisers Who Wish to Remain Anonymous
To protect our readers, Herald-Palladium policy requires that all companies list their names when placing ads in our publication. Employment advertisers who wish to remain anonymous must rent Herald-Palladium boxes so that we can insure our readers that they are not responding to their current employers or any other company to which they do not wish to apply.

Box Charges
Boxes are reserved for 30 days after last day of ad publication. The charge is:
$10. per box- you pick-up responses.
$15. per box - We fax all responses to you on a daily basis.
$25. per box- We mail responses to you once per week.
When readers respond to your ad via e-mail, we will forward them to you immediately if you provide us with an e-mail address or we will print and handle them in the manner that you request.

The Herald-Palladium

DO YOU RUN YOUR OWN BUSINESS?
Get More Exposure!
ADVERTISE WITH US TODAY!

BREAKFASTS AND BANQUETS

Burgers: American Legion Post 518, 4789 Weechik Road, New Troy, will have a hamburger night from 5-8 p.m. today. Cost is $5 for a burger, fries and salad. Cost is $6.50 for a burger, onion rings and salad. All orders are carryout. Order upon arrival, or call ahead at 426-3542.

Breakfasts and Banquets appears on Wednesdays. The deadline is the preceding Wednesday at noon. Civic groups sponsoring fundraising meals, classes or other food-related events should send information in writing to: Focus, The Herald-Palladium, P.O. Box 128, St. Joseph, MI 49085; or email focus@TheHP.com.

BLOOD DRIVES

American Red Cross

11 a.m.-4:45 p.m. today, Chapel Hill United Methodist Church, 4071 Naomi Road, Sodus.

Noon-5:45 p.m. Thursday, Knights of Columbus, 7454 Paw Paw Ave., Watervliet.

Noon-5:45 p.m. Friday, Holy Maternity of Mary Catholic Church, 210 N. Front St., Dowagiac.

Noon-5:45 p.m. Friday, St. Mary of Assumption Church, 28 W. Ash St., Three Oaks.

1-5:45 p.m. Monday, American Legion, 25751 U.S. Highway 12, Edwardsburg.

Noon-5:45 p.m. Dec. 29, Pleasant View Church of Christ, 60550 Crooked Creek Road, Cassopolis.

Noon-5:45 p.m. Dec. 29, St. Basil Catholic Church, 513 Monroe Blvd., South Haven.

11 a.m.-2:45 p.m. Dec. 31, Peace Lutheran Church, 06321 Blue Star Memorial Highway, South Haven.

11 a.m.-4:45 p.m. Jan. 4, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 2673 W. John Beers Road, Stevensville.

12:30-5:15 p.m. Jan. 5, Simpson United Methodist Church, 507 Joy St., Bangor.

Versiti Blood Center of Michigan

Noon-6 p.m. today, Lakeland Hospital, Niles, lower meeting room, 31 N. St. Joseph Ave.

Noon-7 p.m. today, Versiti Blood Center of Michigan, 2710 Cleveland Ave., St. Joseph.

2-6 p.m. Thursday, Water's Edge United Methodist Church, main entrance lobby, 18732 Harbor Country Drive, New Buffalo.

7 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Versiti Blood Center of Michigan, 2710 Cleveland Ave., St. Joseph.

7 a.m.-1 p.m. Sunday, Versiti Blood Center of Michigan, 2710 Cleveland Ave., St. Joseph.

Noon-6 p.m. Tuesday, Michiana Christian Embassy, fellowship hall, 1922 E. Main St., Niles.

Noon-7 p.m. Dec. 23, Versiti Blood Center of Michigan, 2710 Cleveland Ave., St. Joseph.

7 a.m.-1 p.m. Dec. 26, Versiti Blood Center of Michigan, 2710 Cleveland Ave., St. Joseph.

7 a.m.-1 p.m. Dec. 27, Versiti Blood Center of Michigan, 2710 Cleveland Ave., St. Joseph.

Noon-5 p.m. Dec. 28, Lakeland Hospital, Watervliet, classroom B, 400 Medical Park Drive.

1-6 p.m. Dec. 28, The Wellness Center, conference room, 950 S. Bailey Ave., South Haven.

1-6 p.m. Dec. 29, VFW, dance floor, 560 N. Phelps St., Decatur.

Noon-7 p.m. Dec. 30, Versiti Blood Center of Michigan, 2710 Cleveland Ave., St. Joseph.

7 a.m.-1 p.m. Jan. 2, Versiti Blood Center of Michigan, 2710 Cleveland Ave., St. Joseph.

7 a.m.-1 p.m. Jan. 3, Versiti Blood Center of Michigan, 2710 Cleveland Ave., St. Joseph.

Donors must be at least 17 years old and weigh at least 110 pounds. To find more drives, visit www.redcrossblood.org or donate.michigan.versiti.org/donor/schedules/zip.

A few cookbooks fit for holiday gifts

Cookbooks make great gifts – teaching us new recipes and cooking techniques, and taking us to other countries, if not by plane, at least through photos.

So this holiday season, when looking for that special gift, consider one of the following books. I've shared a recipe from each one.

Jane Ammeson

Photo provided

Mickey Pretzels are featured in "The Unofficial Disney Parks Cookbook."

'The Unofficial Disney Parks Cookbook: From Delicious Dole Whip to Tasty Mickey Pretzels, 100 Magical Disney-Inspired Recipes'

by Ashley Craft, $14.99 on Amazon

Mickey Pretzels

Makes 4 servings.

1/2 cup warm water
1 (1/4-ounce) envelope active dry yeast
2 tablespoons light brown sugar
1 teaspoon plus 2 tablespoons salt, divided
4 cups flour
4 cups plus 1 tablespoon room-temperature water, divided
1/4 cup baking soda
1 large egg
4 teaspoons salt

In the bowl of a stand mixer, add warm water and sprinkle yeast on top. Let sit for 10 minutes.

Add brown sugar and 1 teaspoon salt. Using the flat beater attachment, beat on low speed to combine.

Mix in flour. Switch to dough hook attachment, and knead for 5 minutes. Dough should be smooth and elastic.

Remove dough and spray bowl with nonstick cooking spray. Return dough to bowl. Cover with a cloth and let rise in a warm place for 30 minutes.

Heat an oven to 450 degrees. Line a large ungreased baking sheet with parchment paper and set aside.

In a large pot over high heat, bring 4 cups water to a boil.

Turn dough out onto a lightly floured surface. Cut dough into eight equal pieces. Working with one piece at a time, roll dough into a rough heart shape. Using a sharp knife, lightly score or scrape the Mickey shape into the dough. Once you've achieved your desired shape, cut all the way through the dough.

Add baking soda to pot of boiling water. Working with one Mickey at a time, use a big, flat spatula to carefully lift a dough Mickey into baking-soda bath, and poach for 15 seconds. Remove to prepared baking sheet.

In a small bowl, mix together the egg and remaining 1 tablespoon water. Brush onto Mickeys. Sprinkle remaining salt over pretzels.

Bake in oven until deep golden brown, about 10 minutes. Serve immediately.

'Pizza: History, recipes, stories, people, places, love'

by Thom and James Elliot, $29.99

The Nutella Ring

4 1/2 ounces Neapolitan Pizza Dough (see recipe below)
1 1/2 ounces ricotta
3 1/2 ounces Nutella
Sea salt
Ice cream, to serve

Heat your oven as hot as it will go. Using your fingertips, stretch out the dough into a long rectangle about 14-by-5-inches.

Using a spoon, spread the ricotta over the dough lengthways in a long line. Then spoon as much Nutella as you can onto the dough in a long line down the middle of the ricotta. Sprinkle with sea salt.

Fold the dough over itself lengthways so you have a long Nutella parcel. Then, using a closed fist, hammer the long edge to ensure a really strong seal on the dough.

Bring the ends of the parcel around to create a ring (with the seam on the inside) and press the two ends of dough together, using your fist again to make a strong seal.

Bake until the ring has inflated, and the crust is golden. Serve with vanilla ice cream.

Neapolitan Pizza Dough

35 ounces "00" flour (the authors recommend Caputo "blue" or your can substitute semolina flour)
2/3 teaspoon fresh yeast
21 fluid ounces tepid water
1 ounce fine sea salt

Make a mountain of flour in the middle of the table. Using your fist, make a deep well in the middle of the flour, exposing the surface of the table.

Crumble the yeast into the water. Use your good hand to mash up the yeast in the water until it has dissolved.

Fill your crater of flour with a third of the yeast/water mix. Using your fingertips, start making very small circular motions to combine the flour and water.

Start dragging in some more flour to the mix, by undercutting the walls of the crater with your fingertips. As you do this, the mixture in the middle will become thicker. Once it reaches the consistency of porridge you need to add a bit more water. Don't let it get too thick; if it starts to form a dough too soon it becomes difficult to incorporate the rest of the water. Keep dragging in a little flour to thicken the mix, then pouring a little bit more water in to loosen it, until you have all the water used up.

Sprinkle the sea salt over the mixture while it's still very wet to ensure it dissolves and disperses evenly throughout the dough.

Use both hands to push the remaining flour from the outside into the middle. Fold and press the mix until all the flour is absorbed, and a dough comes together. If you have a dough scraper, it really helps get everything off the table, but you can improvise with a paint scraper, spatula or knife.

Work the gluten by kneading the dough. Use the heel of your hand to stretch out the dough and roll it back up, while the other hand acts like an anchor. You'll be able to see the strands of gluten stretching, breaking, being put back together, and becoming stronger. Continue this for about 8 minutes until the dough becomes smooth and glossy. It should also feel tighter and elastic.

Let the dough have a 10-minute rest to relax the gluten. Cover the dough with a damp cloth or some plastic wrap to keep the air from drying it out. Then divide your bulk of dough into individual portions. Ensure your dough balls are neatly shaped – pinched at the bottom and tight on the top – then place them in a tray or container 1-inch apart. Cover with a tight lid or plastic wrap.

Leave the dough at room temperature for approximately 6 hours until it expands to almost double its size, then store in the fridge overnight.

The next day, remove the dough from the fridge for 1-2 hours and bring it back to room temperature before making your pizzas.

'Dinner's in the Bag: 60 Easy Oven Recipes All Wrapped Up'

by Louise Kenney, about $6 on Amazon

Cod en Papillote with Spinach, Olives and Mediterranean Herbs

Makes 2 servings.

1/2 cup black olives, pitted
2 anchovy fillets in oil
4 thyme stalks, leaves picked
4 oregano stalks, leaves picked
1 small bunch flat leaf parsley
1 lemon
Olive oil
1 (14-ounce) can butter beans, drained and rinsed
4 1/4 ounces baby leaf spinach, washed
2 cod loins (approximately 5 1/2 ounces each)
Salt and pepper
6 radishes, sliced (to serve)
Handful pea shoots (to serve)

Heat the oven to 425 degrees. Line a baking dish with a large piece of parchment or foil, or an oven bag.

Finely chop the olives, anchovy fillets and herbs together. Mix together with juice from half of the lemon in a bowl. Season with salt and pepper, and add a glug of olive oil.

In a separate bowl, combine the butter beans with the spinach leaves and two-thirds of the olive-herb mixture. Drizzle in a little more olive oil, and season well with salt and pepper. Tip into the lined baking dish and spread everything out evenly.

Slice the remaining lemon half into 4-6 slices, and lay these on top of the spinach and beans. Place the cod loins on top of the lemon slices, season with salt and pepper and spread the remaining olive-herb mixture over the fish. Close up the parcel and bake in the oven for 15-20 minutes. (If using an oven bag, snip a few slits in the top to allow steam to escape.)

When cooked, unwrap and serve with the radish slices and pea shoots scattered over the top.

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